



July 1996

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# Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons

Australia

## NOTES

## SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

n.a. not available  
\* subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses  
. not applicable

Because estimates have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

## **INQUIRIES**

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## PREFACE

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION	<p>This publication presents information about the job search experience of unemployed persons.</p> <p>Statistics in this publication were obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) survey Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons.</p>
ABOUT THIS SURVEY	<p>The Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons survey was conducted throughout Australia in July 1996 as a supplement to the ABS monthly Labour Force Survey.</p> <p>Data from the survey relate to persons who were unemployed in July 1996, except for those unemployed persons who were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been stood down. All tables in this publication, with the exception of table 1, exclude this group of unemployed persons.</p> <p>Questions asked in this survey covered the two key aspects of the experience of persons looking for work — the steps being taken to find work and barriers to obtaining work that are encountered.</p>

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December 1996

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### THE LABOUR FORCE

In July 1996, the Australian labour force was estimated at 9,111,500 persons. In original terms, there were 731,600 unemployed persons, 3.1% more than in July 1995. The unemployment rate was 8.0%, which was 0.1 percentage points higher than in July 1995. Some 79% of unemployed persons were looking for full-time work, of whom 64% were males. Females represented 67% of unemployed persons looking for part-time work.

Two key aspects of the job search experience are the steps being taken to find work and the barriers to obtaining work that are encountered. Characteristics — such as age, sex and education — of the individual looking for work often influence the job search experience and outcomes. Examples of steps taken to find work are registering with the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) and contacting prospective employers. Common difficulties in finding work are being considered too young or too old by employers, too many applicants for available jobs or there being no vacancies at all.

### ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK

Active steps taken to find work included:

- registering with the CES or other employment agencies;
- writing, phoning or applying in person to an employer;
- answering a newspaper advertisement;
- checking factory/CES noticeboards;
- advertising or tendering; and
- contacting relatives/friends.

Almost three-quarters (74%) of unemployed persons were registered with the CES and also contacted prospective employers. A further 20% contacted prospective employers but were not registered with the CES.

For most of those looking for full-time work, the active steps taken to find work included registering with the CES and contacting prospective employers (84%). However, of those looking for part-time work, the majority contacted prospective employers but were not registered with the CES (58%).

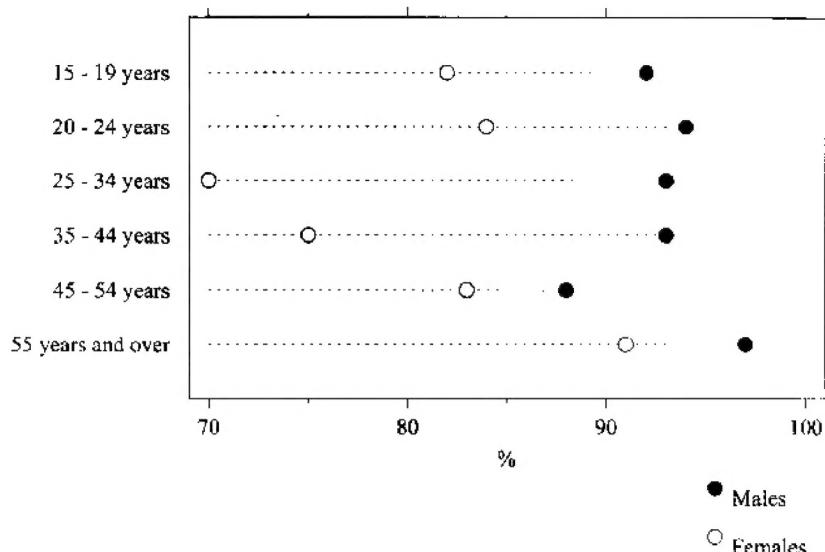
### Persons registered with the CES

The proportion of unemployed persons registered with the CES fell slightly for the third consecutive year to 78% in July 1996 (from a high of 83% in 1993). The proportion of full-time job seekers registered with the CES (88%) was higher than that for part-time job seekers (36%).

A higher proportion of unemployed males were registered with the CES (87%) than females (65%). Of those looking for full-time work, this difference was greatest in the 25–34 years age group (22 percentage points), and least in the older age groups (5 percentage points in the 45–54 years age group and 6 percentage points in the 55 years and over age group).

Of all unemployed 15–19 year olds, only 59% were registered with the CES. This reflects the relatively high proportion of 15–19 year olds searching for part-time work (41% compared with 10% to 15% in other age groups). In fact, unemployed 15–19 year olds represented 42% of all persons seeking part-time work and 13% of all persons seeking full-time work. Of unemployed 15–19 year olds looking for full-time work, the proportion who were registered with the CES was much higher at 89%.

**UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: PROPORTION OF PERSONS LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK REGISTERED WITH THE CES AND AGE GROUP**



**MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK**

The main difficulties in finding work most commonly reported were:

- considered too young or too old by employers (13%);
- too many applicants for available jobs (13%); and
- no vacancies at all (12%).

Of unemployed males, 14% reported 'considered too young or too old by employers' as the main difficulty in finding work. Of unemployed females, 14% reported 'too many applicants for available jobs' as the main difficulty.

'Being considered too young or too old by employers' was the main difficulty most commonly reported by both males and females aged 45 years and over (45% of males and 33% of females).

'No vacancies in line of work' was the most common main difficulty for males aged 25-44 years (18%), and females aged 25-34 years (16%). For females aged 35-44 years, 'too many applicants for available jobs' was the difficulty most commonly reported (16%).

In the younger age groups, males aged 15-24 years most commonly reported 'lacked necessary skills/education' as the main difficulty (17%). For females aged 15-24 years the most commonly reported main difficulty was 'insufficient work experience' (16%).

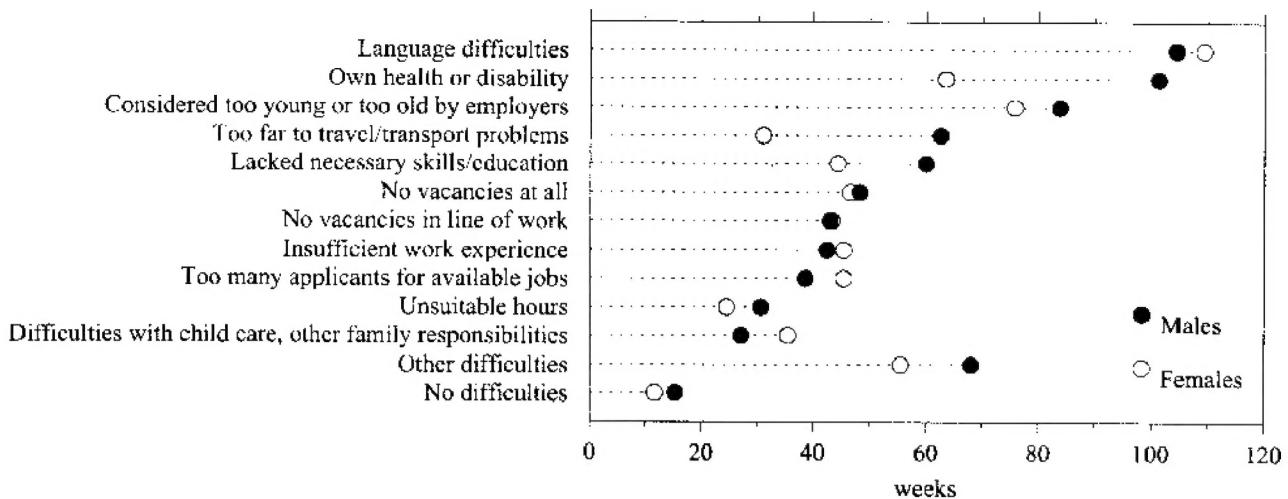
**Average duration of unemployment**

In July 1996 the average duration of unemployment was 53 weeks. However, the median duration of unemployment (the point at which half of unemployed persons are below and half are above) was only 26 weeks, reflecting the marked effect of the long-term unemployed upon the average duration of unemployment.

The average duration of unemployment for males was 60 weeks for those seeking full-time work and 32 weeks for those seeking part-time work. The average duration of unemployment for females was lower at 55 weeks for those seeking full-time work and 28 weeks for those seeking part-time work.

Those reporting 'language difficulties' as the most common main difficulty finding work had the longest average duration of unemployment for both males (104 weeks) and females (109 weeks).

**UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND MAIN DIFFICULTY FINDING WORK**



'Language difficulties' were followed by 'own ill health or disability' (males 101 weeks, females 63 weeks), 'considered too young or too old by employers' (males 84 weeks, females 76 weeks) and 'too far to travel' (males 63 weeks, females 31 weeks).

Although the overall average duration of unemployment was shorter for females than for males, females reporting 'language difficulties', 'insufficient work experience', 'too many applicants for available jobs' or 'difficulties with child care/other family responsibilities' recorded a longer average duration of unemployment than males reporting the same main difficulty in finding work.

**The long-term unemployed**

The main difficulties in finding work most commonly reported by the long-term unemployed were 'considered too young or too old by employers' (21%) and 'lacked necessary skills or education' (12%).

The majority (90%) of long-term unemployed persons in July 1996 had not received any offers of employment in the previous 12 months, slightly higher than in July 1995 when 86% had not received any offers of employment.

**Educational attainment**

In July 1996, 32% of unemployed persons had post-school qualifications.

For those without post-school qualifications, the response 'lacked necessary skills/education' was one of the most commonly reported main difficulties in finding work for both males (14%) and females (13%).

'No vacancies at all' was reported almost equally as a main difficulty in finding work by those with post-school qualifications and those without (12% compared to 11%). Similarly, 'insufficient work experience' (9% and 11%) respectively and 'considered too young or too old by employers' (13% and 14%) were other main difficulties reported by persons with and without post-school qualifications.

For persons who had not completed the highest level of secondary school the average duration of unemployment was 66 weeks, compared with 40 weeks for those who had completed the highest level. Unemployed persons with a Basic or Skilled vocational

qualification recorded an average duration of 50 weeks and 48 weeks respectively. Those with a Bachelor degree or higher qualification had a lower average duration of 47 weeks.

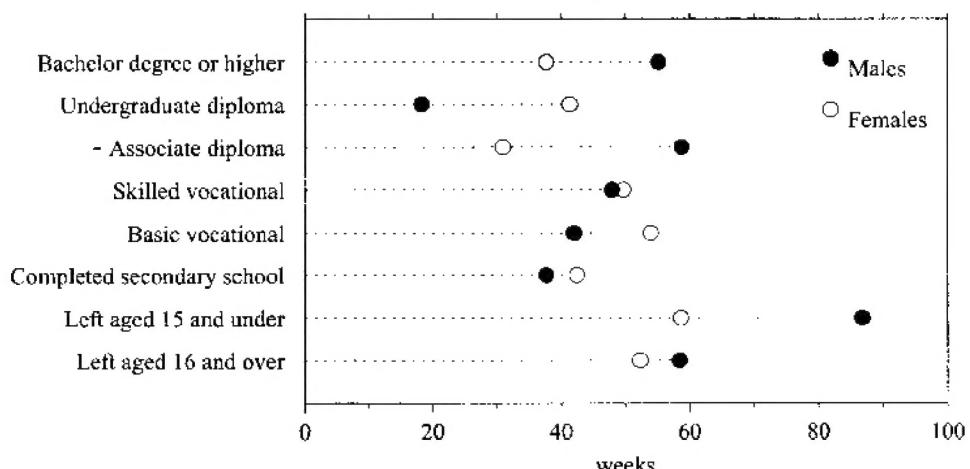
The average duration of unemployment for persons with post-school qualifications (males 50 weeks, females 45 weeks) was lower than that for those without post-school qualifications (males 64 weeks, females 52 weeks).

Males generally had a higher average duration of unemployment than females, 57 weeks compared to 47 weeks, with some exceptions.

Females with an undergraduate diploma, skilled or basic vocational qualifications, or who had completed secondary school had a higher average duration of unemployment.

The highest average duration of unemployment for males and females was reported by those who had left school aged 15 or under (59 weeks and 87 weeks respectively). The lowest average duration of unemployment of all persons was recorded for males with undergraduate diplomas, 18 weeks.

#### UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: AVERAGE DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



- Main field of study**
- Of all unemployed males with post-school qualifications, 47% had Engineering qualifications. The main difficulties in finding work most commonly reported by this group of males were 'no vacancies in line of work' and 'considered too young or too old by employers' (both 18%), 'too many applicants' and 'other difficulties' (both 17%) and 'no vacancies at all' (15%).
  - Other main fields of study common among unemployed males were Business and administration and Natural and physical sciences qualifications.
  - Of all unemployed females with post-school qualifications, 36% had Business and administration qualifications. These females experienced a wide range of difficulties finding work although 20% reported that 'too many applicants' was the main difficulty. Females whose main field of study was Society and culture, found 'no vacancies in line of work' a particular problem, representing 38% of all females with post-school qualifications reporting this main difficulty.

**REASON FOR CEASING  
LAST FULL-TIME JOB**

In July 1996, almost half (48%) of unemployed persons, had been employees in their last full-time job and had ceased that job in the last two years.

Of these, two-thirds (66%) had left their last job involuntarily, representing 222,500 persons, including 142,600 who had been retrenched. The proportion who left involuntarily increased according to age group. While 61% of those aged 15–24 years left their last job involuntarily, 64% of those aged 25–44 years and 77% of those aged 45 years and over had left their last job involuntarily.

The proportion of employees who had left their last job involuntarily was high among those who had worked in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry and the Construction industry (78%). Those who had worked in the Retail trade industry, just over half (54%) had left their last job involuntarily (the lowest proportion across all industries).

Some 76% of former tradespersons had left their last job involuntarily, the highest proportion across all occupations. The lowest proportion was recorded for those whose last occupation was in the Salespersons and personal service workers group, (46%).

**TABLE 1. ALL UNEMPLOYED PERSONS: WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK,  
JULY 1988 TO JULY 1996**

	July 1988	July 1990	June 1991	July 1992	July 1993	July 1994	July 1995	July 1996
ALL UNEMPLOYED PERSONS — '000								
<i>Looking for full-time work</i>								
Males	275.9	288.7	421.6	529.0	510.2	419.1	377.8	368.3
Females	152.5	166.4	214.9	257.5	251.4	233.6	195.5	206.2
Persons	428.4	455.1	636.4	786.6	761.7	652.7	573.2	574.5
<i>Looking for part-time work</i>								
Males	18.6	30.0	31.3	36.5	35.7	39.0	40.4	43.1
Females	56.5	64.4	72.4	78.3	77.4	89.1	72.0	86.9
Persons	75.2	94.5	103.6	115.0	113.1	128.1	112.4	130.0
<i>Persons who were stood down</i>								
Males	5.5	8.4	8.8	10.6	11.4	9.7	14.2	10.7
Females	9.8	11.4	15.2	14.2	14.3	13.4	9.7	16.4
Persons	15.3	19.8	24.1	24.8	25.7	23.1	23.9	27.1
<i>Total, all unemployed persons</i>								
Males	300.0	327.1	461.7	576.1	557.3	467.8	432.4	422.1
Females	218.8	242.2	302.5	350.0	343.2	336.1	277.2	309.5
Persons	518.9	569.4	764.1	926.4	900.5	803.9	709.6	731.6
TOTAL PERSONS IN THE LABOUR FORCE — '000 —								
Males	4,723.8	4,975.4	4,949.2	5,053.8	5,041.8	5,053.5	5,136.6	5,194.7
Females	3,178.1	3,526.9	3,531.6	3,614.1	3,603.9	3,735.3	3,866.5	3,916.8
Persons	7,901.8	8,502.3	8,480.8	8,667.9	8,645.7	8,788.9	9,003.1	9,111.5
PROPORTION OF THE LABOUR FORCE —-%—								
<i>Looking for full-time work</i>								
Males	5.8	5.8	8.5	10.5	10.1	8.3	7.4	7.1
Females	4.8	4.7	6.1	7.1	7.0	6.3	5.1	5.3
Persons	5.4	5.4	7.5	9.1	8.8	7.4	6.4	6.3
<i>Looking for part-time work</i>								
Males	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Females	1.8	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.4	1.9	2.2
Persons	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.4
<i>Persons who were stood down</i>								
Males	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Females	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Persons	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
<i>Total, all unemployed persons</i>								
Males	6.4	6.6	9.3	11.4	11.1	9.3	8.4	8.1
Females	6.9	6.9	8.6	9.7	9.5	9.0	7.1	7.9
Persons	6.6	6.7	9.0	10.7	10.4	9.1	7.9	8.0

**TABLE 2. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS,  
JULY 1988 TO JULY 1996**

	<i>July 1988</i>	<i>July 1990</i>	<i>June 1991</i>	<i>July 1992</i>	<i>July 1993</i>	<i>July 1994</i>	<i>July 1995</i>	<i>July 1996</i>
— % —								
'000								
<b>Active steps taken to find work —</b>								
Registered with the CES and:								
Took no other active steps	1.4	1.5	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.5
Contacted prospective employers	71.7	69.7	74.5	77.9	78.3	75.9	74.0	74.5
Took other active steps	6.1	4.7	3.4	3.8	3.9	4.2	3.6	2.9
Total	79.2	75.8	78.5	82.4	82.7	80.5	78.6	78.0
Not registered with the CES and:								
Contacted prospective employers	19.0	22.2	19.5	15.5	15.8	18.2	20.2	20.3
Took other active steps	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.4	1.6	1.2	1.8
Total	20.8	24.2	21.5	17.6	17.3	19.5	21.4	22.0
<b>Main difficulty in finding work —</b>								
Considered too young or too old by employers	16.5	15.3	11.7	13.8	16.9	17.3	15.4	13.5
Insufficient work experience	10.9	9.3	7.9	8.0	9.5	11.7	12.3	10.1
Too many applicants for available jobs(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	11.6	13.0
Lacked necessary skills or education	12.0	13.4	8.9	9.5	10.0	11.3	11.0	11.1
No vacancies at all	16.1	16.7	33.4	31.9	24.8	17.1	10.9	11.9
No vacancies in line of work	12.0	14.5	18.4	17.1	16.4	14.1	10.6	11.6
Too far to travel or transport problems	6.9	5.2	3.6	3.9	4.5	5.6	7.2	5.2
Own ill health or disability	6.6	6.7	3.8	4.2	4.0	4.4	5.0	5.5
Language difficulties	3.2	4.4	2.2	2.6	2.5	3.9	4.2	3.2
Unsuitable hours	3.6	3.4	2.2	1.9	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.9
Difficulties with childcare or other family responsibilities(c)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1.2	1.6	1.7	1.0	1.6
Other difficulties(d)	6.1	5.5	5.1	2.6	3.2	4.3	2.4	3.9
No difficulties reported	6.2	5.6	2.7	3.2	3.9	6.3	5.9	6.5
<b>Whether would move interstate —</b>								
Would move interstate	24.9	24.7	28.9	31.5	28.5	24.2	25.6	25.5
Would not move interstate	63.3	65.1	58.3	55.0	57.4	61.2	61.6	62.9
Moving interstate would depend on:								
Job conditions	5.1	4.1	5.0	4.6	5.3	5.4	6.2	4.5
Other conditions	4.3	4.2	5.2	5.8	6.1	5.9	4.0	4.1
Total	9.5	8.3	10.2	10.4	11.4	11.4	10.0	8.7
Undecided	2.3	2.0	2.7	3.2	2.7	3.2	2.8	2.9
<b>Whether would move intrastate —</b>								
Would move intrastate	37.4	38.4	42.6	44.9	41.7	37.5	36.8	37.3
Would not move intrastate	48.5	49.5	43.3	39.9	42.6	47.0	48.5	49.1
Moving intrastate would depend on:								
Job conditions	4.6	4.0	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.5	5.4	3.9
Other conditions	7.5	6.5	7.5	8.0	8.1	7.6	6.8	6.5
Total	12.1	10.5	12.2	12.9	13.2	13.1	12.2	10.3
Undecided	2.0	1.7	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.5	3.2
<b>Duration of current period of unemployment —</b>								
Under 1 year	68.9	77.0	75.3	63.2	62.0	63.5	65.4	70.3
1 and under 4 weeks	15.8	18.1	11.4	8.9	10.7	12.3	11.9	14.9
4 and under 8 weeks	12.4	14.9	11.0	8.5	9.3	9.8	10.2	11.0
8 and under 13 weeks	9.4	10.7	11.0	7.3	7.5	6.9	8.7	9.7
13 and under 26 weeks	13.2	15.4	22.5	15.1	13.7	15.4	14.7	14.3
26 and under 52 weeks	18.1	17.9	19.4	23.4	20.8	19.0	19.8	20.4
1 year and over	31.2	23.0	24.8	36.8	38.0	36.5	34.6	29.7
1 and under 2 years	13.2	9.9	13.9	20.6	17.3	15.4	14.5	14.1
2 years and over	18.0	13.1	10.9	16.2	20.8	21.2	20.1	15.6
Total	503.5	548.3	740.1	900.0	871.3	774.2	683.9	701.7
— weeks —								
Average duration of unemployment	53.1	46.7	43.7	54.7	59.4	62.2	60.0	52.9
Median duration of unemployment	23.7	15.6	21.6	29.5	28.9	26.7	25.8	25.5

(a) Excludes persons who were stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Collected separately for the first time in 1995. (c) Collected separately for the first time in 1992. (d) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background

**TABLE 3. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS AND WHETHER LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME WORK, JULY 1996**

	Looking for full-time work			Looking for part-time work			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
— '000 —									
<i>Age group (years) —</i>									
15-19	46.0	28.7	74.7	20.5	34.2	54.7	66.5	63.0	129.5
20-24	62.8	45.8	108.5	7.3	10.6	17.9	70.0	56.4	126.4
25-34	92.2	51.8	144.1	5.3	19.0	24.3	97.6	70.8	168.4
35-44	70.2	37.3	107.5	*3.3	13.5	16.7	73.5	50.8	124.3
45-54	59.6	32.9	92.5	*1.2	9.3	10.5	60.8	42.2	103.0
55 and over	36.4	6.5	42.8	5.1	*2.3	7.4	41.4	8.8	50.2
<i>Relationship in household —</i>									
Family member	276.1	153.8	429.9	35.0	78.9	113.9	311.1	232.8	543.9
Husband or wife	165.2	80.4	245.6	8.4	31.9	40.3	173.6	112.3	285.8
With dependants	102.6	44.5	147.1	*3.1	24.0	27.1	105.7	68.5	174.2
Without dependants	62.6	35.9	98.5	5.2	7.9	13.2	67.9	43.8	111.7
Lone parent	6.4	25.9	32.3	*0.6	13.6	14.2	7.0	39.4	46.5
Other family person(b)	104.5	47.6	152.1	26.0	33.5	59.5	130.5	81.1	211.5
Non-family member	74.1	40.3	114.5	5.8	6.4	12.2	79.9	46.8	126.7
Lone person	39.1	17.5	56.5	*1.6	*1.5	*3.0	40.6	18.9	59.5
Not living alone	35.1	22.9	57.9	*4.2	5.0	9.2	39.3	27.9	67.2
Not determined	16.9	8.9	25.8	*1.8	*3.5	5.3	18.8	12.3	31.1
<i>Birthplace —</i>									
Born in Australia	256.7	142.2	398.9	31.2	63.8	95.0	287.9	206.0	493.9
Born outside Australia	110.5	60.8	171.3	11.5	25.1	36.5	121.9	85.9	207.8
Born in main English speaking countries	32.9	14.9	47.9	*4.0	8.3	12.3	37.0	23.3	60.2
Born in other countries	77.5	45.9	123.4	7.5	16.7	24.2	85.0	62.6	147.6
<i>Educational attainment —</i>									
With post-school qualifications	123.2	69.4	192.6	8.9	21.4	30.3	132.0	90.8	222.9
Bachelor degree or higher	23.8	18.7	42.5	*3.2	6.1	9.3	27.0	24.8	51.8
Undergraduate diploma	*2.1	*3.0	5.1	*0.4	*2.0	*2.5	*2.5	5.1	7.5
Associate diploma	18.1	10.6	28.7	*1.6	*1.4	*3.0	19.7	12.0	31.7
Skilled vocational qualification	64.8	16.6	81.4	*3.1	5.3	8.3	67.8	21.9	89.8
Basic vocational qualification	14.4	20.5	35.0	*0.6	6.5	7.2	15.1	27.1	42.1
Without post-school qualifications(c) -	242.5	132.4	374.9	17.0	44.3	61.3	259.5	176.6	436.1
Completed highest level of secondary school	55.2	33.5	88.7	8.8	17.5	26.4	64.0	51.0	115.1
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	187.0	98.5	285.5	8.2	26.7	34.8	195.1	125.2	320.3
Left aged 15 and under	93.9	46.5	140.3	*3.7	14.3	18.0	97.6	60.8	158.3
Left aged 16 and over	93.1	52.1	145.2	*4.5	12.3	16.8	97.6	64.4	162.0
Still at school	*1.5	*1.2	*2.7	16.8	23.2	40.0	18.3	24.4	42.7
<i>Active steps taken to find work —</i>									
Registered with the CES and —									
Took no other active steps	*1.1	*1.8	*2.9	*0.0	*0.8	*0.8	*1.1	*2.6	*3.8
Contacted prospective employers	328.7	151.2	479.9	13.9	29.0	42.9	342.6	180.2	522.8
Took other active steps	10.2	6.4	16.6	*2.3	*1.5	*3.9	12.5	7.9	20.5
Total	340.1	159.4	499.5	16.2	31.4	47.6	356.3	190.8	547.1
Not registered with the CES and —									
Contacted prospective employers	24.7	41.0	65.7	23.2	53.3	76.5	48.0	94.2	142.2
Took other active steps	*2.4	*2.6	5.0	*3.2	*4.3	7.4	5.6	6.9	12.4
Total	27.1	43.6	70.7	26.4	57.5	83.9	53.5	101.1	154.6
<i>Duration of current period of unemployment —</i>									
Under 1 year	241.9	141.9	383.8	34.5	74.7	109.2	276.4	216.7	493.0
1 and under 4 weeks	39.3	27.6	66.9	13.5	24.2	37.7	52.8	51.8	104.6
4 and under 8 weeks	36.0	21.8	57.8	5.9	13.8	19.7	41.9	35.6	77.5
8 and under 13 weeks	33.3	20.7	54.0	*2.9	11.2	14.1	36.2	31.9	68.1
13 and under 26 weeks	54.7	30.0	84.6	*3.8	11.6	15.4	58.5	41.6	100.1
26 and under 39 weeks	63.4	33.5	96.9	6.8	13.1	19.8	70.1	46.6	116.7
39 and under 52 weeks	15.3	8.4	23.7	*1.6	*0.8	*2.4	16.8	9.2	26.0
1 year and over	125.3	61.1	186.3	8.2	14.1	22.3	133.4	75.2	208.7
1 and under 2 years	60.3	26.5	86.8	*4.7	7.5	12.2	65.0	34.0	99.0
2 years and over	65.0	34.6	99.5	*3.5	6.6	10.2	68.5	41.2	109.7
Total	367.2	203.0	570.2	42.6	88.9	131.5	409.8	291.9	701.7
— weeks —									
Average duration of unemployment	60.3	54.9	58.4	31.9	27.9	29.2	57.4	46.7	52.9
Median duration of unemployment	26.9	25.7	26.4	9.5	8.4	8.4	26.3	19.2	25.5

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Comprises dependent student, non-dependent child and other family person.

(c) Includes persons who never attended school.

TABLE 4. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK AND AGE, JULY 1996

Active steps taken to find work	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK							
Registered with the CES and —							— '000 —
Took no other active steps	*0.0	*0.0	*0.7	*0.0	*0.0	*0.4	*1.1
Contacted prospective employers	40.8	57.6	81.2	64.2	51.3	33.7	328.7
Took other active steps	*1.9	*1.4	*3.5	*1.3	*1.1	*1.2	10.2
Total	42.6	59.0	85.3	65.5	52.4	35.3	340.1
Not registered with the CES and —							— % —
Contacted prospective employers	*3.3	*3.5	6.2	*4.2	6.5	*1.0	24.7
Took other active steps	*0.1	*0.3	*0.7	*0.5	*0.7	*0.0	*2.4
Total	*3.4	*3.8	6.9	*4.7	7.2	*1.0	27.1
Total	46.0	62.8	92.2	70.2	59.6	36.4	367.2
Registered with the CES	92.6	94.0	92.5	93.3	87.8	97.1	92.6
Not registered with the CES	*7.4	*6.0	7.5	*6.7	12.2	*2.9	7.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK							
Registered with the CES and —							— '000 —
Took no other active steps	*0.0	*0.0	*1.4	*0.4	*0.0	*0.0	*1.8
Contacted prospective employers	22.6	38.1	33.2	25.2	26.3	5.9	151.2
Took other active steps	*0.9	*0.3	*1.8	*2.3	*0.9	*0.0	6.4
Total	23.6	38.4	36.4	27.9	27.2	5.9	159.4
Not registered with the CES and —							— % —
Contacted prospective employers	5.1	6.7	13.7	9.5	5.3	*0.6	41.0
Took other active steps	*0.0	*0.6	*1.7	*0.0	*0.3	*0.0	*2.6
Total	5.1	7.4	15.4	9.5	5.6	*0.6	43.6
Total	28.7	45.8	51.8	37.3	32.9	6.5	203.0
Registered with the CES	82.1	83.9	70.3	74.6	82.9	90.8	78.5
Not registered with the CES	17.9	16.1	29.7	25.4	17.1	*9.2	21.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS LOOKING FOR FULL-TIME WORK							
Registered with the CES and —							— '000 —
Took no other active steps	*0.0	*0.0	*2.1	*0.4	*0.0	*0.4	*2.9
Contacted prospective employers	63.4	95.6	114.3	89.4	77.6	39.6	479.9
Took other active steps	*2.8	*1.7	5.3	*3.6	*2.0	*1.2	16.6
Total	66.2	97.4	121.7	93.4	79.6	41.2	499.5
Not registered with the CES and —							— % —
Contacted prospective employers	8.4	10.2	19.9	13.7	11.8	*1.6	65.7
Took other active steps	*0.1	*0.9	*2.4	*0.5	*1.0	*0.0	5.0
Total	8.5	11.2	22.3	14.2	12.9	*1.6	70.7
Total	74.7	108.5	144.1	107.5	92.5	42.8	570.2
Registered with the CES	88.6	89.7	84.5	86.8	86.1	96.2	87.6
Not registered with the CES	11.4	10.3	15.5	13.2	13.9	*3.8	12.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

TABLE 4. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): ACTIVE STEPS TAKEN TO FIND WORK AND AGE, JULY 1996—continued

Active steps taken to find work	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES, TOTAL UNEMPLOYED							
						— '000 —	
Registered with the CES and —							
Took no other active steps	*0.0	*0.0	*0.7	*0.0	*0.0	*0.4	*1.1
Contacted prospective employers	43.2	60.6	83.2	66.8	52.2	36.6	342.6
Took other active steps	*1.9	*2.3	*4.0	*1.6	*1.1	*1.8	12.5
Total	45.0	62.8	87.9	68.4	53.3	38.9	356.3
Not registered with the CES and —							
Contacted prospective employers	19.9	6.1	8.7	*4.6	6.8	*1.9	48.0
Took other active steps	*1.6	*1.1	*0.9	*0.5	*0.7	*0.7	5.6
Total	21.5	7.2	9.7	5.1	7.5	*2.6	53.5
Total	66.5	70.0	97.6	73.5	60.8	41.4	409.8
						— % —	
Registered with the CES	67.7	89.7	90.1	93.1	87.6	93.8	86.9
Not registered with the CES	32.3	10.3	9.9	6.9	12.4	*6.2	13.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
FEMALES, TOTAL UNEMPLOYED							
						— '000 —	
Registered with the CES and —							
Took no other active steps	*0.0	*0.1	*1.8	*0.7	*0.0	*0.0	*2.6
Contacted prospective employers	30.2	42.8	40.9	29.2	30.7	6.5	180.2
Took other active steps	*1.1	*0.7	*2.3	*2.7	*1.2	*0.0	7.9
Total	31.3	43.5	45.0	32.5	31.8	6.5	190.8
Not registered with the CES and —							
Contacted prospective employers	29.6	11.1	23.7	18.0	9.9	*1.9	94.2
Took other active steps	*2.1	*1.7	*2.1	*0.3	*0.4	*0.3	6.9
Total	31.7	12.9	25.7	18.3	10.3	*2.2	101.1
Total	63.0	56.4	70.8	50.8	42.2	8.8	291.9
						— % —	
Registered with the CES	49.7	77.2	63.6	64.1	75.5	74.4	65.4
Not registered with the CES	50.3	22.8	36.4	35.9	24.5	*25.6	34.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERSONS, TOTAL UNEMPLOYED							
						— '000 —	
Registered with the CES and —							
Took no other active steps	*0.0	*0.1	*2.5	*0.7	*0.0	*0.4	*3.8
Contacted prospective employers	73.4	103.3	124.1	96.1	82.9	43.1	522.8
Took other active steps	*3.0	*2.9	6.4	*4.2	*2.2	*1.8	20.5
Total	76.3	106.4	133.0	100.9	85.1	45.4	547.1
Not registered with the CES and —							
Contacted prospective employers	49.4	17.2	32.4	22.6	16.7	*3.8	142.2
Took other active steps	*3.7	*2.8	*3.0	*0.7	*1.1	*1.0	12.4
Total	53.2	20.1	35.4	23.3	17.9	4.8	154.6
Total	129.5	126.4	168.4	124.3	103.0	50.2	701.7
						— % —	
Registered with the CES	59.0	84.1	79.0	81.2	82.7	90.4	78.0
Not registered with the CES	41.0	15.9	21.0	18.8	17.3	9.6	22.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 5. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS AND AGE, JULY 1996**  
('000)

Number of spells of looking for work in the previous twelve months	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES							
One	56.5	57.0	79.8	63.9	52.2	37.7	347.0
Two or more	10.0	13.0	17.8	9.6	8.6	*3.8	62.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>66.5</i>	<i>70.0</i>	<i>97.6</i>	<i>73.5</i>	<i>60.8</i>	<i>41.4</i>	<i>409.8</i>
FEMALES							
One	53.6	46.9	63.1	47.5	39.8	8.0	259.0
Two or more	9.4	9.5	7.6	*3.3	*2.4	*0.8	32.9
<i>Total</i>	<i>63.0</i>	<i>56.4</i>	<i>70.8</i>	<i>50.8</i>	<i>42.2</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>291.9</i>
PERSONS							
One	110.1	103.9	142.9	111.4	92.0	45.7	606.0
Two	16.1	17.0	18.6	8.7	8.4	*1.9	70.7
Three or more	*3.2	5.5	6.8	*4.2	*2.6	*2.7	25.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>129.5</i>	<i>126.4</i>	<i>168.4</i>	<i>124.3</i>	<i>103.0</i>	<i>50.2</i>	<i>701.7</i>

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 6. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): NUMBER OF OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS AND DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT, JULY 1996**

Number of offers of employment in the previous twelve months	Duration of current period of unemployment							Total	Average duration (weeks)	Median duration (weeks)
	1 and under 4 weeks	4 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 13 weeks	13 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks	1 and under 2 years	2 years and over			
	— '000 —									
MALES										
None	47.2	35.9	30.5	49.7	77.4	59.0	63.0	362.6	59.5	26.5
One or more	5.6	6.1	5.8	8.8	9.5	6.0	5.4	47.2	41.2	20.1
Three or more	*0.9	*0.4	*0.5	*0.9	*1.0	*1.1	*1.5	6.2	*73.9	26.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>52.8</i>	<i>41.9</i>	<i>36.2</i>	<i>58.5</i>	<i>86.9</i>	<i>65.0</i>	<i>68.5</i>	<i>409.8</i>	<i>57.4</i>	<i>26.3</i>
FEMALES										
None	42.9	26.9	25.8	34.2	48.3	29.2	36.5	243.8	48.9	21.5
One or more	8.8	8.7	6.0	7.4	7.5	4.8	*4.7	48.1	35.3	12.7
Three or more	*0.7	*0.1	*0.2	*0.9	*1.9	*0.8	*0.8	5.4	*60.5	30.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>51.8</i>	<i>35.6</i>	<i>31.9</i>	<i>41.6</i>	<i>55.8</i>	<i>34.0</i>	<i>41.2</i>	<i>291.9</i>	<i>46.7</i>	<i>19.2</i>
PERSONS										
None	90.1	62.7	56.3	83.8	125.7	88.2	99.6	606.4	55.2	25.8
One	11.4	11.4	8.2	10.4	11.7	7.5	6.2	66.9	34.5	13.7
Two	*1.5	*2.9	*2.9	*4.0	*2.5	*1.5	*1.5	16.7	32.5	14.4
Three or more	*1.6	*0.5	*0.7	*1.8	*2.9	*1.8	*2.3	11.7	67.6	27.8
<i>Total</i>	<i>104.6</i>	<i>77.5</i>	<i>68.1</i>	<i>100.1</i>	<i>142.8</i>	<i>99.0</i>	<i>109.7</i>	<i>701.7</i>	<i>52.9</i>	<i>25.5</i>

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 7. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT, JULY 1996**

Main difficulty in finding work	Duration of current period of unemployment							Total	Average duration (weeks)	Median duration (weeks)		
	1 and under 4 weeks	4 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 13 weeks	13 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks	1 and under 2 years	2 years and over					
	— '000 —											
<b>MALES</b>												
Considered too young or too old by employers	*4.7	*3.5	*4.2	7.9	8.5	10.5	19.5	58.7	83.7	51.7		
Insufficient work experience	*4.5	*3.1	*4.5	5.6	8.8	5.4	*3.2	35.2	42.3	25.0		
Too many applicants for available jobs	5.8	6.7	*4.4	8.7	11.7	8.7	*4.8	50.6	38.5	25.1		
Lacked necessary skills/education	*3.5	*3.4	*4.0	7.0	12.0	10.1	7.5	47.6	59.9	28.1		
No vacancies at all	6.6	*4.4	4.9	8.4	12.0	8.7	7.3	52.2	48.2	26.6		
No vacancies in line of work	8.9	8.5	6.7	8.2	12.9	6.9	5.0	57.2	42.8	16.9		
Too far to travel/transport problems	*1.1	*4.2	*1.6	*2.7	*4.6	*3.5	*3.7	21.3	62.5	28.2		
Own ill health or disability	*3.7	*1.9	*1.4	*2.5	5.6	*3.7	9.6	28.3	101.2	37.2		
Language difficulties	*1.1	*0.6	*0.7	*1.9	*1.8	*3.2	5.0	14.3	104.3	53.5		
Unsuitable hours	*0.4	*0.2	*0.4	*1.7	*0.0	*1.3	*0.0	*4.0	*30.6	*15.5		
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.5	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.3	*0.0	*0.8	*27.1	*2.1		
Other difficulties(b)	*1.7	*0.7	*1.9	*2.5	6.4	*1.8	*2.3	17.2	68.0	29.6		
No difficulties at all	10.2	*4.8	*1.8	*1.4	*2.6	*1.0	*0.7	22.4	15.3	3.8		
<b>Total</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>41.9</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>86.9</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>409.8</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>26.3</b>		
<b>FEMALES</b>												
Considered too young or too old by employers	*2.7	*3.4	*2.8	5.3	7.8	*4.1	9.9	36.0	75.7	28.3		
Insufficient work experience	*4.2	*2.8	*2.2	6.0	9.5	7.6	*3.2	35.5	45.3	26.3		
Too many applicants for available jobs	*4.6	*3.9	5.8	5.0	9.6	6.0	5.7	40.6	45.3	25.6		
Lacked necessary skills/education	*3.6	*4.0	4.8	*4.1	6.8	*2.9	*4.0	30.1	44.3	21.2		
No vacancies at all	5.8	*3.7	*4.4	5.1	5.1	*2.4	*4.4	31.0	46.5	13.8		
No vacancies in line of work	5.6	*4.4	*2.1	*3.7	*3.9	*2.8	*1.7	24.2	43.2	12.9		
Too far to travel/transport problems	*3.3	*2.2	*2.7	*1.6	*3.4	*1.1	*1.1	15.5	30.9	9.0		
Own ill health or disability	*2.8	*0.8	*0.7	*1.4	*1.3	*0.7	*2.8	10.6	63.4	19.7		
Language difficulties	*0.5	*0.6	*0.0	*0.5	*1.6	*1.0	*3.9	8.1	109.3	81.0		
Unsuitable hours	*4.1	*1.6	*2.7	*2.8	*3.3	*1.2	*0.7	16.6	24.5	11.3		
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.7	*2.3	*0.7	*2.3	*1.4	*2.1	*0.6	10.1	35.4	15.9		
Other difficulties(b)	*0.9	*1.6	*0.3	*1.6	*1.3	*1.9	*2.3	10.0	55.5	26.3		
No difficulties at all	12.9	*4.1	*2.6	*2.0	*0.9	*0.2	*0.9	23.5	11.6	2.7		
<b>Total</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>291.9</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>19.2</b>		
<b>PERSONS</b>												
Considered too young or too old by employers	7.4	6.9	7.0	13.2	16.3	14.6	29.4	94.7	80.7	39.1		
Insufficient work experience	8.8	5.9	6.7	11.6	18.3	13.0	6.4	70.7	43.8	25.9		
Too many applicants for available jobs	10.4	10.5	10.2	13.7	21.3	14.7	10.5	91.2	41.5	25.6		
Lacked necessary skills/education	7.2	7.4	8.8	11.1	18.8	13.0	11.4	77.7	53.9	26.5		
No vacancies at all	12.3	8.1	9.3	13.5	17.1	11.1	11.7	83.2	47.6	23.1		
No vacancies in line of work	14.6	12.9	8.8	11.8	16.8	9.8	6.7	81.4	42.9	14.2		
Too far to travel/transport problems	*4.3	6.4	*4.3	*4.3	8.1	*4.6	*4.7	36.8	49.2	21.2		
Own ill health or disability	6.5	*2.7	*2.1	*3.9	6.9	*4.4	12.4	38.9	90.9	32.3		
Language difficulties	*1.6	*1.3	*0.7	*2.4	*3.4	*4.1	9.0	22.4	106.1	58.5		
Unsuitable hours	*4.5	*1.8	*3.1	*4.6	*3.3	*2.5	*0.7	20.6	25.7	13.2		
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*1.3	*2.3	*0.7	*2.3	*1.4	*2.3	*0.6	10.9	34.8	15.2		
Other difficulties(b)	*2.6	*2.3	*2.2	*4.1	7.7	*3.7	*4.6	27.2	63.4	28.4		
No difficulties at all	23.1	8.9	*4.3	*3.5	*3.5	*1.1	*1.5	45.9	13.4	3.4		
<b>Total</b>	<b>104.6</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>99.0</b>	<b>109.7</b>	<b>701.7</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>25.5</b>		

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

**TABLE 8. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT,  
JULY 1996  
('000)**

Main difficulty in finding work	Educational attainment										
	With post-school qualifications				Without post-school qualifications						
	Bachelor degree or higher	Under-graduate or associate diploma	Skilled vocational qualifi-cation	Basic vocational qualifi-cation	Total	Completed highest level of secondary school	Did not complete highest level of secondary school	Left aged 15 and under	Left aged 16 and over	Total(b)	Total(c)
MALES											
Considered too young or too old by employers	*2.5	*3.9	12.8	*2.0	21.2	8.1	19.1	9.4	36.7	58.7	
Insufficient work experience	*4.5	*1.8	*1.3	*1.5	9.1	8.3	5.2	10.1	23.9	35.2	
Too many applicants for available jobs	*3.2	*3.4	10.9	*1.5	19.0	7.3	7.0	12.4	26.8	50.6	
Lacked necessary skills/ education	*1.0	*1.4	5.0	*1.8	9.2	9.0	15.3	13.3	37.6	47.6	
No vacancies at all	*2.6	*1.7	9.7	*2.4	16.4	6.0	14.0	12.3	32.3	52.2	
No vacancies in line of work	*4.2	*3.9	14.0	*1.7	23.8	9.2	10.6	13.1	32.9	57.2	
Too far to travel, transport problems	*0.4	*0.3	*2.6	*1.1	*4.4	*1.2	6.4	9.4	17.0	21.3	
Own ill health or disability	*1.6	*1.6	*3.4	*1.9	8.6	*1.2	10.1	7.9	19.3	28.3	
Language difficulties	*2.4	*1.5	*0.7	*0.1	*4.7	*4.2	*3.2	*1.8	9.3	14.3	
Unsuitable hours	*0.0	*0.0	*0.5	*0.0	*0.5	*2.2	*0.0	*0.0	*2.2	*4.0	
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.2	*0.3	*0.0	*0.0	*0.4	*0.0	*0.0	*0.4	*0.4	*0.8	
Other difficulties(d)	*2.5	*1.3	*2.2	*0.8	6.9	*1.9	*3.3	*4.6	9.8	17.2	
No difficulties at all	*2.0	*1.1	*4.6	*0.3	7.9	5.3	*3.3	*2.8	11.4	22.4	
<b>Total</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>132.0</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>97.6</b>	<b>97.6</b>	<b>259.5</b>	<b>409.8</b>	
FEMALES											
Considered too young or too old by employers	*1.3	*0.4	*2.7	*3.7	8.1	*4.7	11.3	9.9	25.9	36.0	
Insufficient work experience	*3.8	*1.0	*2.7	*3.0	10.5	7.7	6.5	7.8	22.3	35.5	
Too many applicants for available jobs	*4.0	*3.3	*3.9	*3.3	14.5	6.6	8.2	6.8	21.6	40.6	
Lacked necessary skills/ education	*1.9	*0.7	*2.3	*2.5	7.3	5.4	6.9	10.1	22.4	30.1	
No vacancies at all	*2.4	*1.7	*3.0	*3.3	10.4	*3.6	*3.5	7.9	14.9	31.0	
No vacancies in line of work	*3.4	*2.4	*1.6	*1.8	9.3	4.9	5.1	4.8	14.8	24.2	
Too far to travel, transport problems	*0.2	*1.0	*1.2	*1.3	*3.7	*2.9	*4.2	*3.8	10.9	15.5	
Own ill health or disability	*0.5	*1.1	*0.4	*2.5	*4.5	*1.6	*2.9	*1.6	6.1	10.6	
Language difficulties	*2.1	*1.5	*0.0	*0.0	*3.6	*1.6	*1.9	*0.9	*4.5	8.1	
Unsuitable hours	*1.5	*0.9	*1.3	*1.8	5.4	*4.7	*1.7	*2.4	8.8	16.6	
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*1.0	*1.4	*1.3	*1.2	4.9	*0.6	*2.4	*2.2	5.2	10.1	
Other difficulties(d)	*1.3	*0.4	*1.1	*0.3	*3.1	*2.2	*1.7	*2.2	6.1	10.0	
No difficulties at all	*1.4	*1.4	*0.5	*2.3	5.7	*4.7	*4.4	*3.9	13.1	23.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>90.8</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>60.8</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>176.6</b>	<b>291.9</b>	
PERSONS											
Considered too young or too old by employers	*3.8	*4.3	15.5	5.7	29.2	12.8	30.4	19.3	62.6	94.7	
Insufficient work experience	8.3	*2.8	*4.0	*4.5	19.6	16.1	11.7	17.9	46.3	70.7	
Too many applicants for available jobs	7.1	6.7	14.8	*4.8	33.5	13.9	15.3	19.2	48.4	91.2	
Lacked necessary skills/ education	*2.9	*2.0	7.2	*4.3	16.5	14.4	22.2	23.4	60.0	77.7	
No vacancies at all	5.1	*3.4	12.7	5.7	26.8	9.6	17.5	20.1	47.2	83.2	
No vacancies in line of work	7.6	6.3	15.6	*3.5	33.1	14.0	15.7	18.0	47.7	81.4	
Too far to travel, transport problems	*0.6	*1.3	*3.8	*2.4	8.1	*4.0	10.6	13.2	27.9	36.8	
Own ill health or disability	*2.1	*2.7	*3.8	*4.4	13.0	*2.8	13.0	9.6	25.4	38.9	
Language difficulties	*4.5	*3.0	*0.7	*0.1	8.2	5.8	5.1	*2.8	13.8	22.4	
Unsuitable hours	*1.5	*0.9	*1.8	*1.8	6.0	6.9	*1.7	*2.4	11.0	20.6	
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*1.2	*1.7	*1.3	*1.2	5.3	*0.6	*2.4	*2.6	5.6	10.9	
Other difficulties(d)	*3.8	*1.7	*3.3	*1.2	9.9	*4.1	5.1	6.8	16.0	27.2	
No difficulties at all	*3.4	*2.5	5.1	*2.6	13.6	9.9	7.8	6.8	24.5	45.9	
<b>Total</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>89.8</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>222.9</b>	<b>115.1</b>	<b>158.3</b>	<b>162.0</b>	<b>436.1</b>	<b>701.7</b>	

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who never attended school. (c) Includes persons still at school. (d) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

**TABLE 9. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND BIRTHPLACE, JULY 1996**

Main difficulty in finding work	Born in Australia			Born outside Australia			Total		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
—'000—									
Considered too young or too old by employers	35.5	23.8	59.2	23.2	12.2	35.5	58.7	36.0	94.7
Insufficient work experience	25.0	24.4	49.4	10.2	11.1	21.3	35.2	35.5	70.7
Too many applicants for available jobs	34.2	28.8	63.0	16.4	11.8	28.2	50.6	40.6	91.2
Lacked necessary skills/education	38.6	22.3	60.9	9.0	7.8	16.8	47.6	30.1	77.7
No vacancies at all	42.4	23.2	65.6	9.8	7.8	17.5	52.2	31.0	83.2
No vacancies in line of work	42.6	19.1	61.7	14.6	5.2	19.8	57.2	24.2	81.4
Too far to travel, transport problems	18.9	12.4	31.3	*2.4	*3.1	5.6	21.3	15.5	36.8
Own ill health or disability	19.5	6.9	26.4	8.8	*3.7	12.5	28.3	10.6	38.9
Language difficulties	*0.3	*0.0	*0.3	14.0	8.1	22.1	14.3	8.1	22.4
Unsuitable hours	*3.1	13.4	16.5	*0.9	*3.3	*4.1	*4.0	16.6	20.6
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.8	5.9	6.7	*0.0	*4.2	*4.2	*0.8	10.1	10.9
Other difficulties(b)	11.0	7.1	18.0	6.2	*2.9	9.1	17.2	10.0	27.2
No difficulties at all	15.9	18.9	34.8	6.5	*4.7	11.2	22.4	23.5	45.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>287.9</b>	<b>206.0</b>	<b>493.9</b>	<b>121.9</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>207.8</b>	<b>409.8</b>	<b>291.9</b>	<b>701.7</b>
—%—									
Considered too young or too old by employers	12.3	11.5	12.0	19.1	14.2	17.1	14.3	12.3	13.5
Insufficient work experience	8.7	11.8	10.0	8.3	12.9	10.2	8.6	12.2	10.1
Too many applicants for available jobs	11.9	14.0	12.8	13.4	13.8	13.6	12.4	13.9	13.0
Lacked necessary skills/education	13.4	10.8	12.3	7.4	9.1	8.1	11.6	10.3	11.1
No vacancies at all	14.7	11.3	13.3	8.0	9.0	8.4	12.7	10.6	11.9
No vacancies in line of work	14.8	9.2	12.5	12.0	6.0	9.5	14.0	8.3	11.6
Too far to travel, transport problems	6.6	6.0	6.3	*2.0	*3.6	2.7	5.2	5.3	5.2
Own ill health or disability	6.8	3.4	5.3	7.2	*4.3	6.0	6.9	3.6	5.5
Language difficulties	*0.1	*0.0	*0.1	11.5	9.4	10.6	3.5	2.8	3.2
Unsuitable hours	*1.1	6.5	3.3	*0.7	*3.8	*2.0	*1.0	5.7	2.9
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.3	2.9	1.4	*0.0	*4.9	*2.0	*0.2	3.5	1.6
Other difficulties(b)	3.8	3.4	3.6	5.1	*3.4	4.4	4.2	3.4	3.9
No difficulties at all	5.5	9.2	7.0	5.3	*5.4	5.4	5.5	8.1	6.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

**TABLE 10. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND AGE, JULY 1996**

Main difficulty in finding work	Age group (years)						Total
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	
MALES							
Considered too young or too old by employers	*5.8	*3.3	*2.1	*6.1	29.8	67.5	14.3
Insufficient work experience	13.9	16.7	9.0	*6.3	*1.3	*0.0	8.6
Too many applicants for available jobs	14.9	11.2	13.3	15.9	10.9	*3.8	12.4
Lacked necessary skills/education	15.9	17.9	14.2	8.4	*7.0	*0.4	11.6
No vacancies at all	14.7	14.0	10.0	14.6	13.5	*9.5	12.7
No vacancies in line of work	8.2	14.1	15.8	19.9	12.8	*9.8	14.0
Too far to travel, transport problems	*7.0	7.8	7.7	*3.0	*2.4	*0.0	5.2
Own ill health or disability	*2.2	*3.7	10.1	10.7	*7.2	*5.2	6.9
Language difficulties	*1.1	*1.1	6.0	*4.8	*5.3	*0.4	3.5
Unsuitable hours	*2.5	*2.2	*0.5	*0.0	*0.5	*0.0	*1.0
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.0	*0.0	*0.2	*0.5	*0.4	*0.0	*0.2
Other difficulties(b)	*3.8	*2.8	5.3	*5.5	*4.4	*1.7	4.2
No difficulties at all	9.8	*5.2	5.8	*4.2	*4.4	*1.7	5.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
— '000 —							
Total	66.5	70.0	97.6	73.5	60.8	41.4	409.8
FEMALES							
Considered too young or too old by employers	8.1	*8.3	*4.0	12.7	28.8	*54.6	12.3
Insufficient work experience	14.6	18.6	11.8	9.8	*5.3	*3.2	12.2
Too many applicants for available jobs	14.1	10.6	13.7	15.5	17.6	*8.5	13.9
Lacked necessary skills/education	10.2	11.1	12.6	*8.0	*10.1	*2.4	10.3
No vacancies at all	13.2	9.0	8.3	11.7	12.2	*7.2	10.6
No vacancies in line of work	*4.8	*6.3	15.9	*8.0	*4.6	*4.8	8.3
Too far to travel, transport problems	10.3	*8.5	*2.4	*3.3	*1.9	*0.0	5.3
Own ill health or disability	*1.4	*4.8	*3.4	*2.7	*6.6	*5.1	3.6
Language difficulties	*0.0	*2.0	*1.8	*6.4	*5.7	*0.0	2.8
Unsuitable hours	8.5	*5.4	*6.6	*5.7	*1.5	*0.0	5.7
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.9	*5.3	*5.4	*5.0	*0.4	*0.0	3.5
Other difficulties(b)	*2.6	*1.5	*5.1	*5.0	*2.4	*3.3	3.4
No difficulties at all	11.1	8.6	9.1	*6.2	*2.7	*10.9	8.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
— '000 —							
Total	63.0	56.4	70.8	50.8	42.2	8.8	291.9
PERSONS							
Considered too young or too old by employers	6.9	5.5	2.9	8.8	29.4	65.2	13.5
Insufficient work experience	14.3	17.6	10.2	7.7	*2.9	*0.6	10.1
Too many applicants for available jobs	14.5	10.9	13.5	15.7	13.7	*4.6	13.0
Lacked necessary skills/education	13.1	14.9	13.5	8.2	8.3	*0.8	11.1
No vacancies at all	14.0	11.7	9.3	13.4	13.0	*9.1	11.9
No vacancies in line of work	6.6	10.6	15.8	15.0	9.4	*9.0	11.6
Too far to travel, transport problems	8.6	8.1	5.5	*3.1	*2.2	*0.0	5.2
Own ill health or disability	*1.8	4.2	7.3	7.4	7.0	*5.2	5.5
Language difficulties	*0.6	*1.5	4.3	5.4	5.5	*0.4	3.2
Unsuitable hours	5.4	*3.6	3.1	*2.3	*0.9	*0.0	2.9
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.5	*2.4	*2.4	*2.4	*0.4	*0.0	1.6
Other difficulties(b)	*3.3	*2.2	5.2	5.3	*3.6	*2.0	3.9
No difficulties at all	10.5	6.7	7.2	5.1	*3.7	*3.3	6.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
— '000 —							
Total	129.5	126.4	168.4	124.3	103.0	50.2	701.7

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

**TABLE 11. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): ALL DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING WORK AND AGE, JULY 1996**

<i>All difficulties in finding work</i>	<i>Age group (years)</i>						<i>Total</i>
	<i>15-19</i>	<i>20-24</i>	<i>25-34</i>	<i>35-44</i>	<i>45-54</i>	<i>55 and over</i>	
<b>MALES</b>							
				— % —			
Too many applicants for available jobs	36.1	42.4	37.8	43.7	38.3	34.8	39.2
No vacancies in line of work	25.2	35.8	36.8	45.9	39.1	34.3	36.5
Considered too young or too old by employers	24.7	21.7	14.1	25.2	61.7	83.1	33.2
Insufficient work experience	39.7	41.4	31.6	22.3	13.7	*7.0	27.8
Lacked necessary skills/education	31.7	47.8	39.2	28.3	24.6	16.6	33.0
No vacancies at all	26.9	34.0	31.5	38.9	34.9	31.8	33.0
Too far to travel/transport problems	19.8	25.1	22.2	13.2	12.9	*6.0	17.7
Own ill health or disability	*5.1	8.7	14.6	18.2	15.3	13.6	12.7
Unsuitable hours	*4.7	7.0	*2.8	*4.2	*2.5	*1.5	3.9
Language difficulties	*1.8	*2.5	10.7	8.5	8.1	*3.9	6.4
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*0.0	*0.0	*1.2	*2.5	*0.9	*0.2	*0.9
Other difficulties(b)	*4.7	8.3	9.5	11.0	9.0	*6.8	8.4
				— '000 —			
<i>Total</i>	<i>66.5</i>	<i>70.0</i>	<i>97.6</i>	<i>73.5</i>	<i>60.8</i>	<i>41.4</i>	<i>409.8</i>
<b>FEMALES</b>							
				— % —			
Too many applicants for available jobs	39.7	42.6	36.8	42.6	47.4	*34.0	41.0
No vacancies in line of work	20.3	28.2	34.2	30.0	25.8	*32.6	28.1
Considered too young or too old by employers	26.3	24.8	18.1	31.7	55.0	71.3	30.5
Insufficient work experience	34.4	41.6	31.0	25.2	28.7	*12.2	31.9
Lacked necessary skills/education	27.6	40.4	31.1	30.9	33.8	*18.3	32.1
No vacancies at all	29.5	31.8	29.9	30.0	32.6	*32.7	30.7
Too far to travel/transport problems	22.9	26.6	11.4	13.6	14.7	*10.5	17.7
Own ill health or disability	*2.8	*6.9	7.0	*7.9	13.7	*13.6	7.4
Unsuitable hours	17.4	13.8	17.2	16.9	*5.5	*5.6	14.5
Language difficulties	*0.0	*3.5	*6.5	10.9	*11.0	*10.3	6.1
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*2.0	*6.2	14.2	*9.1	*3.0	*0.0	7.1
Other difficulties(b)	*6.2	*7.8	7.0	10.1	*5.7	*6.5	7.3
				— '000 —			
<i>Total</i>	<i>63.0</i>	<i>56.4</i>	<i>70.8</i>	<i>50.8</i>	<i>42.2</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>291.9</i>
<b>PERSONS</b>							
				— % —			
Too many applicants for available jobs	37.8	42.5	37.4	43.3	42.0	34.6	39.9
No vacancies in line of work	22.8	32.4	35.7	39.4	33.7	34.0	33.0
Considered too young or too old by employers	25.5	23.1	15.8	27.9	59.0	81.1	32.0
Insufficient work experience	37.1	41.5	31.4	23.5	19.8	*7.9	29.5
Lacked necessary skills/education	29.7	44.5	35.8	29.4	28.4	16.9	32.7
No vacancies at all	28.2	33.0	30.8	35.2	34.0	32.0	32.0
Too far to travel/transport problems	21.3	25.8	17.6	13.3	13.6	*6.8	17.7
Own ill health or disability	4.0	7.9	11.4	14.0	14.6	13.6	10.5
Unsuitable hours	10.9	10.0	8.9	9.3	*3.7	*2.2	8.3
Language difficulties	*0.9	*3.0	8.9	9.5	9.3	*5.0	6.2
Difficulties with child care, other family responsibilities	*1.0	*2.7	6.7	5.2	*1.7	*0.2	3.5
Other difficulties(b)	5.4	8.1	8.5	10.6	7.6	*6.8	8.0
				— '000 —			
<i>Total</i>	<i>129.5</i>	<i>126.4</i>	<i>168.4</i>	<i>124.3</i>	<i>103.0</i>	<i>50.2</i>	<i>701.7</i>

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who reported difficulties because of ethnic background.

**TABLE 12. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS AND RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD, JULY 1996**  
('000)

Relationship in household	Time spent looking for work in the previous twelve months							Total
	1 and under 4 weeks	4 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 13 weeks	13 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 39 weeks	39 and under 52 weeks	52 weeks	
<b>MALES</b>								
Family member	31.3	25.7	27.9	46.5	53.8	21.1	104.9	311.1
Husband	15.0	15.5	13.3	23.3	26.1	12.7	67.8	173.6
With dependants	9.8	7.6	8.1	14.7	17.9	8.8	38.8	105.7
Without dependants	5.2	7.9	5.2	8.6	8.2	*3.9	29.0	67.9
Lone parent	*0.6	*0.0	*0.7	*0.9	*0.5	*0.6	*3.6	7.0
With dependants	*0.6	*0.0	*0.4	*0.2	*0.5	*0.2	*2.5	*4.5
Without dependants	*0.0	*0.0	*0.3	*0.7	*0.0	*0.4	*1.2	*2.6
Dependent student	7.2	*3.3	*1.6	*2.6	5.4	*1.7	*3.6	25.3
Non-dependent child	7.8	5.5	11.2	15.8	19.7	5.0	24.9	90.1
Other family person	*0.7	*1.4	*1.0	*3.9	*2.1	*1.1	4.9	15.1
Non-family member	5.3	7.9	6.2	14.8	16.4	5.3	24.0	79.9
Lone person	*2.3	*3.0	*3.1	6.7	7.5	*2.6	15.5	40.6
Not living alone	*3.0	4.9	*3.1	8.2	8.9	*2.7	8.5	39.3
Not determined	*1.5	*2.6	*2.6	*2.6	*3.6	*1.3	*4.6	18.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.1</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>36.7</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>73.9</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>133.4</b>	<b>409.8</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>								
Family member	39.1	26.4	23.6	34.5	40.8	8.7	59.7	232.8
Wife	17.1	14.1	12.5	16.7	14.4	*3.8	33.7	112.3
With dependants	10.7	9.0	7.5	11.2	7.7	*1.9	20.4	68.5
Without dependants	6.4	5.1	5.0	5.5	6.7	*1.9	13.3	43.8
Lone parent	5.4	5.0	*3.6	5.9	7.7	*1.1	10.8	39.4
With dependants	5.4	*4.5	*3.0	5.7	6.9	*0.8	7.5	33.8
Without dependants	*0.0	*0.5	*0.6	*0.2	*0.8	*0.4	*3.3	5.6
Dependent student	9.2	*4.7	*3.9	*3.7	6.5	*1.1	*4.0	33.0
Non-dependent child	6.3	*2.1	*3.5	6.6	9.3	*2.4	8.7	39.0
Other family person	*1.1	*0.6	*0.0	*1.8	*2.9	*0.2	*2.6	9.1
Non-family member	*3.8	5.6	*3.9	8.3	9.1	*2.3	13.7	46.8
Lone person	*1.0	*2.6	*0.9	*2.4	*3.5	*0.8	7.7	18.9
Not living alone	*2.8	*3.0	*3.0	6.0	5.6	*1.5	6.0	27.9
Not determined	*1.7	*2.1	*0.8	*1.6	*2.7	*1.6	*1.8	12.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>52.5</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>75.2</b>	<b>291.9</b>
<b>PERSONS</b>								
Family member	70.4	52.1	51.5	81.0	94.6	29.8	164.6	543.9
Husband or wife	32.1	29.6	25.8	40.0	40.5	16.5	101.4	285.8
With dependants	20.5	16.6	15.7	25.9	25.6	10.7	59.2	174.2
Without dependants	11.5	13.0	10.1	14.1	14.9	5.8	42.3	111.7
Lone parent	6.0	5.0	*4.3	6.8	8.2	*1.8	14.4	46.5
With dependants	6.0	*4.5	*3.5	5.9	7.4	*1.0	9.9	38.3
Without dependants	*0.0	*0.5	*0.9	*0.9	*0.8	*0.8	*4.5	8.2
Dependent student	16.4	8.0	5.6	6.2	11.8	*2.7	7.6	58.3
Non-dependent child	14.2	7.6	14.8	22.4	29.0	7.5	33.6	129.0
Other family person	*1.8	*1.9	*1.0	5.6	5.1	*1.3	7.5	24.3
Non-family member	9.2	13.5	10.1	23.1	25.5	7.6	37.7	126.7
Lone person	*3.3	5.6	*3.9	9.0	11.1	*3.4	23.2	59.5
Not living alone	5.9	7.8	6.2	14.1	14.5	*4.2	14.5	67.2
Not determined	*3.2	*4.6	*3.4	*4.3	6.3	*2.9	6.4	31.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>70.2</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>108.4</b>	<b>126.4</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>208.7</b>	<b>701.7</b>

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 13. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): DURATION OF CURRENT PERIOD OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, JULY 1996**

Educational attainment	Duration of current period of unemployment								Average duration (weeks)	Median duration (weeks)	
	1 and under 4 weeks	4 and under 8 weeks	8 and under 13 weeks	13 and under 26 weeks	26 and under 52 weeks	1 and under 2 years	2 years and over	Total			
	— '000 —										
<b>MALES</b>											
With post-school qualifications	18.6	14.4	10.6	22.6	25.8	21.0	19.1	132.0	49.7	24.7	
Bachelor degree or higher	*3.9	*1.5	*2.3	*4.4	6.7	*3.8	*4.3	27.0	55.1	26.3	
Undergraduate diploma	*0.7	*0.3	*0.2	*0.4	*0.6	*0.2	*0.0	*2.5	*18.2	*16.8	
Associate diploma	*2.9	*1.7	*1.7	*3.0	*3.6	*3.5	*3.4	19.7	58.7	27.3	
Skilled vocational qualification	9.2	8.6	5.0	13.0	11.6	10.9	9.5	67.8	47.9	22.0	
Basic vocational qualification	*1.9	*2.3	*1.4	*1.7	*3.2	*2.6	*1.9	15.1	42.0	25.3	
Without post-school qualifications(b)	27.8	25.7	24.4	34.0	56.2	42.1	49.3	259.5	64.0	27.4	
Completed highest level of secondary school	9.8	5.9	6.3	10.0	18.3	7.8	5.9	64.0	37.6	25.5	
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	18.0	19.8	18.1	23.9	37.9	33.9	43.4	195.1	72.6	30.2	
Left aged 15 and under	7.9	6.1	9.1	10.9	17.1	16.4	30.2	97.6	86.8	39.2	
Left aged 16 and over	10.2	13.7	9.1	13.0	20.9	17.5	13.2	97.6	58.4	26.0	
Still at school	6.4	*1.8	*1.2	*2.0	4.9	*1.9	*0.1	18.3	18.6	10.8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>52.8</b>	<b>41.9</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>86.9</b>	<b>65.0</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>409.8</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>26.3</b>	
<b>FEMALES</b>											
With post-school qualifications	16.9	10.7	9.6	12.6	17.5	11.0	12.5	90.8	44.7	19.1	
Bachelor degree or higher	*4.6	*2.6	*1.9	*4.8	5.7	*2.5	*2.7	24.8	37.6	17.4	
Undergraduate diploma	*0.9	*0.8	*0.0	*0.4	*1.4	*0.8	*0.7	5.1	*41.3	29.5	
Associate diploma	*2.1	*1.9	*2.3	*0.9	*3.5	*0.4	*1.0	12.0	30.9	9.4	
Skilled vocational qualification	*4.2	*2.2	*1.7	*3.6	*3.8	*3.2	*3.2	21.9	49.7	21.3	
Basic vocational qualification	5.1	*3.3	*3.6	*2.9	*3.1	*4.0	5.0	27.1	53.9	18.8	
Without post-school qualifications(b)	28.1	21.1	19.6	25.5	34.0	19.9	28.5	176.6	51.6	21.6	
Completed highest level of secondary school	10.5	5.2	5.2	9.2	9.8	5.3	5.9	51.0	42.4	17.8	
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	17.5	16.0	14.4	16.0	24.1	14.6	22.5	125.2	55.4	23.5	
Left aged 15 and under	8.0	8.6	5.4	8.5	10.9	7.6	11.7	60.8	58.6	24.0	
Left aged 16 and over	9.6	7.4	9.0	7.5	13.2	7.0	10.8	64.4	52.3	23.2	
Still at school	6.8	*3.7	*2.7	*3.4	*4.4	*3.2	*0.2	24.4	18.5	9.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>35.6</b>	<b>31.9</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>291.9</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>19.2</b>	
<b>PERSONS</b>											
With post-school qualifications	35.5	25.2	20.2	35.2	43.3	32.0	31.6	222.9	47.7	22.7	
Bachelor degree or higher	8.6	*4.1	*4.1	9.2	12.4	6.4	7.0	51.8	46.7	25.0	
Undergraduate diploma	*1.6	*1.1	*0.2	*0.8	*2.0	*1.0	*0.7	7.5	*33.7	24.5	
Associate diploma	4.9	*3.5	*4.0	*3.9	7.1	*3.8	*4.3	31.7	48.2	21.5	
Skilled vocational qualification	13.4	10.8	6.7	16.6	15.4	14.2	12.7	89.8	48.3	21.8	
Basic vocational qualification	7.0	5.6	5.1	*4.7	6.3	6.6	6.9	42.1	49.7	22.6	
Without post-school qualifications(b)	55.9	46.8	44.0	59.5	90.2	61.9	77.8	436.1	59.0	26.1	
Completed highest level of secondary school	20.4	11.0	11.4	19.2	28.1	13.1	11.8	115.1	39.7	20.7	
Did not complete highest level of secondary school	35.6	35.8	32.5	39.9	62.1	48.5	65.9	320.3	65.9	27.1	
Left aged 15 and under	15.8	14.7	14.5	19.4	28.0	24.1	41.9	158.3	76.0	30.3	
Left aged 16 and over	19.7	21.1	18.1	20.5	34.1	24.5	24.0	162.0	56.0	25.7	
Still at school	13.2	5.5	*4.0	5.4	9.3	5.1	*0.2	42.7	18.5	10.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>104.6</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>142.8</b>	<b>99.0</b>	<b>109.7</b>	<b>701.7</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>25.5</b>	

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who never attended school.

**TABLE 14. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a): MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK AND MAIN FIELD OF STUDY, JULY 1996  
('000)**

Main field of study	Main difficulty in finding work									Total
	Considered too young/ too old by employers	Insufficient work experience	Too many applicants	Lacked necessary skills/ education	No vacancies at all	No vacancies in line of work	Other difficulties(d)	No difficulties at all		
	MALES									
With post-school qualifications	21.2	9.1	19.0	9.2	16.4	23.8	25.4	7.9	132.0	
Business and administration	*3.3	*2.2	*2.6	*1.1	*1.4	*0.8	*2.7	*1.4	15.4	
Health	*0.3	*0.0	*0.0	*0.9	*0.5	*0.0	*0.6	*0.0	*2.2	
Education	*1.1	*0.3	*0.4	*0.0	*0.0	*0.5	*1.1	*0.2	*3.6	
Society and culture	*1.0	*1.0	*1.1	*1.5	*0.6	*2.0	*1.0	*1.1	9.3	
Natural and physical sciences	*0.7	*0.7	*1.9	*0.6	*1.1	*2.6	*2.2	*0.1	10.1	
Engineering	10.9	*3.0	10.2	*2.6	9.1	11.3	10.4	*3.9	61.5	
Architecture and building	*0.2	*0.1	*0.2	*0.3	*1.2	*1.9	*1.1	*0.1	5.1	
Agriculture and related fields	*0.9	*1.4	*0.0	*0.6	*0.8	*0.8	*2.1	*0.0	6.5	
Miscellaneous fields(b)	*2.8	*0.5	*2.6	*1.5	*1.7	*3.8	*4.3	*1.1	18.4	
Without post-school qualifications(c)	36.7	23.9	26.8	37.6	32.3	32.9	57.9	11.4	259.5	
<b>Total(e)</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>50.6</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>52.2</b>	<b>57.2</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>409.8</b>	
FEMALES										
With post-school qualifications	8.1	10.5	14.5	7.3	10.4	9.3	25.2	5.7	90.8	
Business and administration	*4.5	*4.3	6.6	*2.0	*3.3	*2.5	8.3	*1.3	32.7	
Health	*0.6	*0.6	*0.3	*0.5	*1.0	*0.1	*3.3	*1.8	8.2	
Education	*0.8	*0.0	*2.7	*0.8	*2.6	*0.6	*2.9	*0.5	11.0	
Society and culture	*0.7	*2.2	*2.4	*1.9	*0.1	*3.5	*4.0	*0.6	15.5	
Natural and physical sciences	*0.6	*1.1	*0.0	*0.5	*0.5	*0.2	*1.9	*0.5	5.4	
Engineering	*0.0	*0.9	*0.0	*0.0	*0.3	*0.5	*1.5	*0.0	*3.2	
Architecture and building	*0.0	*0.5	*0.2	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.0	*0.7	
Agriculture and related fields	*0.0	*0.0	*0.7	*0.8	*0.6	*0.1	*0.0	*0.0	*2.2	
Miscellaneous fields(b)	*0.8	*0.9	*1.5	*0.7	*2.0	*1.7	*3.2	*1.1	12.0	
Without post-school qualifications(c)	25.9	22.3	21.6	22.4	14.9	14.8	41.7	13.1	176.6	
<b>Total(e)</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>31.0</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>70.9</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>291.9</b>	
PERSONS										
With post-school qualifications	29.2	19.6	33.5	16.5	26.8	33.1	50.6	13.6	222.9	
Business and administration	7.7	6.4	9.2	*3.1	*4.6	*3.3	11.0	*2.7	48.1	
Health	*0.9	*0.6	*0.3	*1.4	*1.4	*0.1	*3.9	*1.8	10.4	
Education	*2.0	*0.3	*3.0	*0.8	*2.6	*1.1	*4.0	*0.7	14.6	
Society and culture	*1.7	*3.1	*3.5	*3.4	*0.7	5.5	5.1	*1.7	24.7	
Natural and physical sciences	*1.4	*1.8	*1.9	*1.1	*1.7	*2.9	*4.0	*0.6	15.4	
Engineering	10.9	*3.9	10.2	*2.6	9.4	11.9	11.9	*3.9	64.7	
Architecture and building	*0.2	*0.6	*0.4	*0.3	*1.2	*1.9	*1.1	*0.1	5.8	
Agriculture and related fields	*0.9	*1.4	*0.7	*1.4	*1.4	*0.9	*2.1	*0.0	8.7	
Miscellaneous fields(b)	*3.6	*1.4	*4.1	*2.3	*3.7	5.5	7.5	*2.2	30.4	
Without post-school qualifications(c)	62.6	46.3	48.4	60.0	47.2	47.7	99.6	24.5	436.1	
<b>Total(e)</b>	<b>94.7</b>	<b>70.7</b>	<b>91.2</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>83.2</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>156.9</b>	<b>45.9</b>	<b>701.7</b>	

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes 'Other non-codable' fields of study. (c) Includes persons who never attended school. (d) Includes 'Too far to travel', 'Own ill health or disability', 'Language difficulties', 'Unsuitable hours', 'Difficulties with childcare', 'Other family responsibilities', 'Difficulties because of ethnic background' and 'Other difficulties.' (e) Includes persons who are still at school.

TABLE 15. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a) WHO WERE EMPLOYEES IN THEIR LAST FULL-TIME JOB AND WHO CEASED THAT JOB IN THE LAST TWO YEARS: SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS AND REASON FOR CEASING LAST FULL-TIME JOB, JULY 1996  
('000)

	Reason for ceasing last full-time job						Total job leaver Total	
	Job loser		Job leaver					
	Retrenched	Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	Total job loser(b)	Unsatisfactory work arrangements	Other(c)	Total job leaver		
<i>Age group (years)—</i>								
15-19	11.5	6.3	19.3	5.9	11.1	17.1	36.4	
20-24	30.1	16.7	50.1	11.9	14.9	26.9	77.0	
25-34	38.0	14.6	57.3	16.0	19.1	35.1	92.4	
35-44	26.8	10.5	42.6	5.9	15.0	20.8	63.4	
45-54	24.2	10.3	35.9	*2.8	10.1	12.9	48.7	
55 and over	11.9	*4.7	17.3	*1.2	*2.2	*3.4	20.6	
<i>Birthplace</i>								
Born in Australia	101.3	45.3	159.7	36.3	48.8	85.0	244.7	
Born outside Australia	41.3	17.9	62.9	7.4	23.6	31.0	93.9	
Born in main English speaking countries	16.3	6.3	24.7	*2.0	6.3	8.3	33.0	
Born in other countries	25.0	11.5	38.2	5.4	17.3	22.7	60.9	
<i>Duration of last full-time job</i>								
Less than 1 year	75.2	55.9	141.2	27.4	29.9	57.3	198.5	
2 and under 4 weeks	*4.4	10.1	15.9	*3.3	*2.9	6.2	22.1	
4 and under 8 weeks	8.0	8.9	17.8	*3.4	*3.4	6.9	24.7	
8 and under 26 weeks	34.6	18.1	57.4	11.1	15.1	26.2	83.6	
26 and under 52 weeks	28.3	18.9	50.0	9.5	8.6	18.1	68.1	
1 and under 2 years	21.0	*4.4	27.6	8.3	11.8	20.1	47.8	
2 and under 5 years	20.2	*2.1	24.1	5.1	11.6	16.7	40.8	
5 years and over	26.3	*0.7	29.6	*2.8	19.1	21.9	51.6	
<i>Industry of last full-time job</i>								
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	*4.1	8.0	12.7	*1.3	*2.1	*3.4	16.2	
Manufacturing	39.3	8.8	52.0	11.2	12.7	23.9	75.9	
Construction	20.7	*3.8	25.8	*3.1	*4.2	7.3	33.1	
Wholesale trade	8.9	*2.1	11.6	*3.6	*3.4	7.0	18.6	
Retail trade	19.5	*3.0	25.2	8.3	13.4	21.7	46.9	
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	9.4	*2.2	12.4	*3.1	5.5	8.6	21.0	
Transport and storage	9.3	*1.8	11.9	*1.8	*1.8	*3.6	15.4	
Communication services	*2.4	*0.0	*2.7	*0.2	*0.5	*0.7	*3.4	
Property and business services	8.9	6.4	17.4	*4.0	6.9	10.9	28.3	
Government administration and defence	*3.6	8.3	12.9	*0.1	6.2	6.3	19.2	
Education	*1.1	6.5	8.0	*0.7	*3.6	*4.3	12.3	
Health and community services	*3.2	5.2	9.7	*1.8	5.2	7.0	16.7	
Cultural and recreational services	*2.7	*3.1	6.3	*0.7	*2.3	*3.0	9.3	
Personal and other services	*2.6	*2.5	5.6	*2.2	*2.2	*4.5	10.0	
Other(d)	6.8	*1.4	8.4	*1.5	*2.3	*3.8	12.2	
<i>Occupation of last full-time job</i>								
Managers and administrators	9.5	*1.1	11.0	*1.0	*3.0	*4.0	15.0	
Professionals	*4.4	7.5	12.5	*0.0	8.3	8.3	20.8	
Para-professionals	5.2	*2.4	7.8	*0.9	*3.9	*4.8	12.6	
Tradespersons	33.9	8.1	44.5	6.5	7.2	13.7	58.2	
Clerks	14.2	11.4	28.0	6.0	8.3	14.3	42.3	
Salespersons and personal service workers	14.1	6.4	22.3	9.1	16.7	25.8	48.1	
Plant and machine operators, and drivers	16.8	*2.8	21.7	*4.1	6.2	10.2	32.0	
Labourers and related workers	44.4	23.5	74.6	16.1	18.9	35.0	109.6	
<i>Usual gross weekly pay in last full-time job</i>								
Australian currency (\$)	139.8	62.4	219.0	43.5	61.7	105.2	324.1	
Under 160	7.7	*3.1	11.2	*3.2	*4.4	7.7	18.9	
160 and under 320	29.5	21.7	53.5	11.8	14.3	26.1	79.6	
320 and under 480	51.1	19.3	79.6	20.6	25.3	45.8	125.5	
480 and under 640	27.0	9.7	40.2	*4.8	9.9	14.7	54.8	
640 and under 800	11.9	*3.3	16.4	*2.2	*3.6	5.8	22.2	
800 and over	12.6	5.2	18.1	*0.9	*4.2	5.1	23.1	
Other(e)	*2.8	*0.7	*3.6	*0.2	10.7	10.9	14.5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>142.6</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>222.5</b>	<b>43.7</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>116.1</b>	<b>338.6</b>	

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes. (b) Includes persons who had left their job because of their own ill health or disability. (c) Includes 'Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies and other reasons'. (d) Includes Mining; Electricity, gas and water supply; and Finance and insurance. (e) Includes 'Not determined', 'Non-Australian currency' and 'Payment in kind'.

**TABLE 16. UNEMPLOYED PERSONS(a) WHO WERE EMPLOYEES IN THEIR LAST FULL-TIME JOB AND WHO CEASED THAT JOB IN THE LAST TWO YEARS: DURATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB AND AGE, JULY 1996  
('000)**

Age group (years)	<i>Duration of last full-time job</i>							
	<i>Under 1 year</i>				Total	<i>1 and under 5 years</i>	<i>5 years and over</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>2 and under 4 weeks</i>	<i>4 and under 8 weeks</i>	<i>8 and under 26 weeks</i>	<i>26 and under 52 weeks</i>				
<b>MALES</b>								
15-19	*3.5	*3.9	5.9	*3.9	17.2	*3.7	*0.0	20.9
20-24	*3.4	*3.2	14.4	11.4	32.4	13.9	*0.6	47.0
25-34	*3.3	*3.8	17.7	13.7	38.5	17.6	7.7	63.9
35-44	*2.7	*1.7	9.4	6.7	20.5	14.5	10.4	45.3
45-54	*0.9	*1.6	*4.8	9.8	17.1	6.9	10.2	34.2
55 and over	*1.3	*1.5	*1.7	*1.4	5.8	*3.1	8.0	16.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>46.9</b>	<b>131.5</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>228.2</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>								
15-19	*1.6	*2.8	6.1	*2.1	12.6	*2.9	*0.0	15.5
20-24	*1.6	*2.7	9.2	8.2	21.7	7.5	*0.9	30.0
25-34	*0.8	*1.6	8.4	6.4	17.2	8.4	*2.9	28.5
35-44	*1.3	*1.4	*2.8	*2.6	8.2	*4.7	5.2	18.1
45-54	*0.7	*0.2	*3.0	*1.6	5.6	*4.7	*4.3	14.5
55 and over	*1.0	*0.3	*0.2	*0.3	*1.7	*0.7	*1.3	*3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>67.0</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>110.4</b>
<b>PERSONS</b>								
15-19	-	5.1	6.6	12.0	6.0	29.8	6.6	*0.0
20-24	-	5.0	5.9	23.6	19.6	54.1	21.4	*1.5
25-34	-	*4.1	5.4	26.1	20.1	55.7	26.0	10.7
35-44	-	*4.0	*3.1	12.2	9.4	28.7	19.2	15.6
45-54	-	*1.6	*1.9	7.8	11.4	22.7	11.6	14.5
55 and over	-	*2.3	*1.8	*1.9	*1.6	7.5	*3.8	9.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>83.6</b>	<b>68.1</b>	<b>198.5</b>	<b>88.6</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>338.6</b>

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

**TABLE 17. POPULATIONS BY STATE OR TERRITORY OF USUAL RESIDENCE, JULY 1996**  
('000)

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Aust</i>
<b>MALES</b>									
<i>Population 1:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a)	129.4	100.0	81.5	37.0	37.6	14.3	2.9	7.2	409.8
<i>Population 2:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a) who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years	66.2	54.4	52.0	18.9	22.5	8.1	*1.8	4.2	228.2
<b>FEMALES</b>									
<i>Population 1:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a)	84.6	77.6	62.0	24.2	26.1	9.0	2.8	5.6	291.9
<i>Population 2:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a) who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years	28.4	25.7	25.9	9.0	13.6	4.1	*1.4	2.4	110.4
<b>PERSONS</b>									
<i>Population 1:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a)	213.9	177.7	143.5	61.1	63.7	23.3	5.6	12.8	701.7
<i>Population 2:</i>									
Unemployed persons(a) who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years	94.6	80.1	77.9	27.9	36.1	12.2	3.1	6.6	338.6

(a) Excludes persons who have been stood down. Refer to paragraph 3 of the Explanatory Notes.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

**1** The monthly population survey (which is described in *Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) comprises the monthly Labour Force Survey and supplementary topics. This publication contains results of a supplementary survey run in association with the July 1996 Labour Force Survey conducted throughout Australia.

**2** Respondents to the Labour Force Survey who fell within the scope of the supplementary survey were asked additional questions about their job search experience, including their difficulties in finding work, steps taken to find work and whether they had had offers of employment, as well as their educational attainment and the characteristics of their last job, if any.

### SCOPE

**3** The scope of this supplementary survey was the same as that used for the Labour Force Survey (described in full in *Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0)) except that it was restricted to unemployed persons excluding those who were waiting to be called back to a full-time or part-time job from which they had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week (for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown). Students at boarding school, some patients in hospitals and sanatoriums and inmates of reformatories, gaols, etc. were also excluded.

**4** The number of unemployed persons published in *Labour Force, Australia, July 1996* (6203.0) differs from that published in this publication because persons who were stood down were excluded from this survey, as it was inappropriate to ask them about their job search experience. Persons who were stood down comprised 3.7% of all unemployed persons in July 1996.

### COVERAGE

**5** In the monthly population survey, coverage rules are applied which aim to ensure that each person is associated with only one dwelling, and hence has only one chance of selection in the survey. See *Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) for more details.

### DEFINITIONS

**6** See the Glossary for definitions specific to this survey. Definitions of labour force and demographic classifications relating to the Labour Force Survey appearing in this publication are given in *Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

**7** Unless otherwise stated, all characteristics referenced in these tables relate to the week before the interview (i.e. the reference week).

### RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

**8** Estimates of unemployed persons are also published in *Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0). However, more detailed information is contained in this publication.

**9** Due to differences in the method of estimation used in this supplementary survey and that used in the Labour Force Survey, there are some small variations between estimates in this publication and those in the corresponding issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0).

**10** The estimates in this publication refer to information collected in the survey month and, due to seasonal factors, may not be representative of other months of the year.

HISTORICAL SURVEYS	<p><b>11</b> Results of similar surveys on the job search experience of unemployed persons have been published in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Persons Looking for Work, May 1976, November 1976</i> (6.60)</li> <li>▪ <i>Persons Looking for Work, May 1977, July 1978, July 1979, July 1980, June 1981</i> (6222.0)</li> <li>▪ <i>Characteristics of Persons Looking for Work, Australia, July 1982, July 1983</i> (6222.0)</li> <li>▪ <i>Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia, July 1984, July 1985, June 1986, July 1988, July 1990, June 1991, July 1992, July 1993, July 1994</i> (6222.0).</li> <li>▪ <i>Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons, Australia, July 1995</i> (6222.0.40.001)</li> </ul>
NEXT SURVEY	<p><b>12</b> It is proposed that this survey will be conducted next in July 1997.</p>
UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS	<p><b>13</b> As well as the statistics included in these articles and related data services, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to the contact named on page 2.</p>
COMPARABILITY OF SERIES	<p><b>14</b> Information about the labour force collected in the monthly Labour Force Survey and the Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons supplementary survey may not be strictly comparable. It is impracticable to obtain information relating to the whole of the previous 12 months which is strictly comparable with that obtained in the monthly Labour Force Survey, for which the reference period is one week. The definitions used in determining labour force status and duration of current period of unemployment depend on a detailed set of questions. The items <i>time spent looking for work</i> and <i>number of spells of looking for work during the previous 12 months</i> are based on a more limited set of questions. It is for this reason that the terms <i>working</i>, <i>looking for work</i> and <i>not working or looking for work</i> are used for these items rather than the more precisely defined terms <i>employed</i>, <i>unemployed</i>, and <i>not in the labour force</i>.</p>
BENCHMARK REVISION	<p><b>15</b> Results of monthly population surveys conducted before February 1994 are based on population estimates from the 1986 Census of Population and Housing. From February 1994, the monthly Labour Force Survey and its supplementary surveys have been based on population estimates from the 1991 Census of Population and Housing. This change in base population estimates should be considered when comparing the results of surveys conducted before February 1994 with the results of those conducted after February 1994.</p>
SAMPLE SIZE	<p><b>16</b> In previous years this supplementary survey has been conducted on all dwellings selected in the Labour Force Survey. Since July 1994 this has been reduced to seven-eighths of the Labour Force Survey sample. As a result, the standard errors for surveys conducted from July 1994 on, differ from those applicable to previous surveys.</p>
ESTIMATION PROCEDURE	<p><b>17</b> The estimates are derived from the population survey by use of a ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population for each capital city and remainder of State by age, sex and labour force status rather than to the corresponding distribution within the sample itself.</p>
RELIABILITY OF STATISTICS	<p><b>18</b> Estimates in this publication are subject to sampling and non-sampling errors. For further information refer to the Technical Notes, page 30.</p>

## RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**19** Other ABS products which may be of interest include:

- *Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) — issued monthly
- *Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience, Australia* (6245.0) — issued two yearly
- *Australia's Long-Term Unemployed — A Statistical Profile* (6255.0) — issued irregularly
- *Labour Mobility, Australia* (6245.0) — issued two yearly
- *Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families, Australia* (6224.0.40.001) — issued annually
- *Labour Force Experience, Australia* (6206.0.40.001) — issued two yearly
- *Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia* (6220.0.40.001) — issued annually
- *Underemployed Workers, Australia* (6265.0.40.001) — issued annually

**20** Current publications and data services produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists products to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

## TECHNICAL NOTES

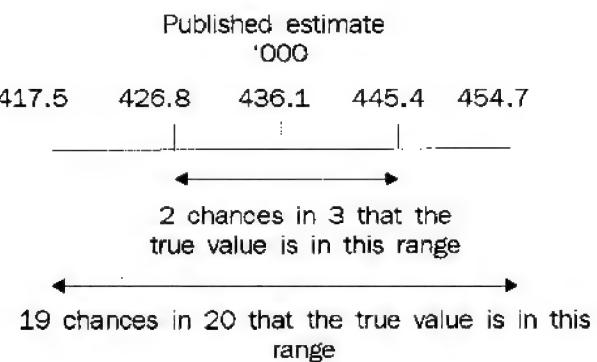
### INTRODUCTION

Since the estimates in this publication are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings, they are subject to sampling variability; that is, they may differ from those estimates that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample of dwellings was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the number that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included, and about 19 chances in 20 the difference will be less than two standard errors. Another measure of the likely difference is the *relative standard error*, which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate.

Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this publication. A table of standard errors for general application is given on page 32. Since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of past surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics these numbers will not give a precise measure of the standard error of a particular estimate but they will provide an indication of its magnitude.

### CALCULATION OF STANDARD ERROR

An example of the calculation and the use of standard errors in relation to estimates of persons is as follows: table 3 shows that the estimated number of unemployed persons in Australia who did not have a post-school qualification was 436,100. Since this estimate is between 300,000 and 500,000 the table of standard errors shows the standard error for Australia will be between 8,050 and 9,900 and can be approximated by interpolation as 9,300 (rounded to the nearest 100). Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the value that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey will fall in the range 426,800 to 445,400 and about 19 chances in 20 that the value will fall within the range 417,500 to 454,700. This example is illustrated in the following diagram.



As can be seen from the standard error table, *the smaller the estimate the higher the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this publication, only estimates with relative standard errors of 25% or less and percentages based on such estimates are considered sufficiently reliable for most purposes. However, estimates with larger relative standard errors have been included and are preceded by an asterisk (e.g. \*3.4) to indicate they are subject to high standard errors and should be used with caution.

## AVERAGES AND MEDIAN

The relative standard errors of estimates of *average duration of unemployment*, and *median duration of unemployment* are obtained by first finding the relative standard error of the estimate of the total number of persons contributing to the average or median and then multiplying the relevant number so obtained by the following factors:

Average duration of unemployment: 1.3  
Median duration of unemployment: 2.0

An example of the calculation of standard errors by the use of those factors is as follows: table 3 shows the estimated median duration of unemployment for unemployed males in Australia was 26 weeks and the number of males was estimated as 409,800. From the table on the following page it can be calculated that this estimate (409,800) has a standard error of about 9,100 and therefore a relative standard error of about 2.2%. The *relative standard error* of the estimate of median duration of unemployment is calculated by multiplying this number (2.2) by the appropriate factor shown in the previous paragraph (in this case 2.0):  $2.2 \times 2.0 = 4.4\%$ . The *standard error* of this estimate of median duration of unemployment is therefore 4.4% of 26, i.e. about 1. Therefore there are about two chances in three that the median duration of unemployment for males that would have been obtained if all dwellings had been included in the survey would have been within the range 25–27 weeks and about 19 chances in 20 that it would have been within the range 24–28 weeks.

## PROPORTIONS AND PERCENTAGES

Proportions and percentages derived from the ratio of two estimates are also subject to sampling errors. The size of the error depends on the accuracy of both the numerator and the denominator. A formula to approximate the relative standard error (RSE) of a proportion is:

$$RSE(x/y) = \sqrt{[RSE(x)]^2 - [RSE(y)]^2}$$

Considering the example from the previous page, the 436,100 persons without post-school qualifications represent 62.1% of the 701,700 unemployed persons. The standard error of 701,700 is approximately 11,200 so the relative standard error is 1.6%. The relative standard error for 436,100 is 2.1%. Applying the above formula, the relative standard error of the proportion is  $\sqrt{(2.1)^2 - (1.6)^2}$  or 1.4%, giving a standard error for the proportion (62.1%) of 0.9 percentage points. Therefore, there are about two chances in three that the proportion of unemployed persons without post-school qualifications is between 61.2% and 63.0% and 19 chances in 20 that the proportion is within the range 60.3% to 63.9%.

## SAMPLING ERROR

Published estimates may also be used to calculate the difference between two survey estimates (of numbers or percentages). Such an estimate is subject to sampling error. The sampling error of the difference between two estimates depends on their standard errors and the relationship (correlation) between them. An approximate standard error (SE) of the difference between two estimates ( $x-y$ ) may be calculated by the following formula:

$$SE(x-y) = \sqrt{[SE(x)]^2 + [SE(y)]^2}$$

While this formula will only be exact for differences between separate and uncorrelated characteristics or subpopulations, it is expected to provide a good approximation for all differences likely to be of interest in this publication.

## NON-SAMPLING ERROR

The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in coding and processing data. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

## STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust. Relative Standard Error	
									no.	%
Persons	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
100	..	..	..	..	..	100	130	80	..	..
200	..	..	220	200	210	150	180	110	210	104.5
300	360	320	270	250	260	180	210	130	260	88.3
500	470	410	350	320	340	240	270	170	360	71.0
700	560	490	420	380	400	280	310	200	430	61.3
1 000	670	590	500	450	470	330	370	230	520	52.3
1 500	820	730	610	550	570	400	440	270	650	43.5
2 000	950	840	700	630	650	450	500	310	760	38.1
2 500	1 050	950	800	700	700	500	550	340	850	34.3
3 000	1 150	1 000	850	750	800	540	600	370	950	31.4
3 500	1 250	1 100	900	800	850	570	650	390	1 000	29.2
4 000	1 300	1 150	950	850	900	600	700	420	1 100	27.4
5 000	1 450	1 300	1 100	950	1 000	650	750	450	1 250	24.6
7 000	1 700	1 550	1 250	1 100	1 150	750	900	500	1 450	20.8
10 000	2 000	1 800	1 500	1 300	1 350	850	1 050	600	1 750	17.4
15 000	2 400	2 150	1 750	1 550	1 600	1 000	1 250	700	2 100	14.1
20 000	2 750	2 450	2 000	1 750	1 800	1 100	1 450	800	2 450	12.2
30 000	3 250	2 900	2 400	2 050	2 100	1 250	1 750	950	2 950	9.8
40 000	3 700	3 300	2 700	2 300	2 350	1 350	2 000	1 050	3 350	8.4
50 000	4 050	3 600	2 950	2 500	2 600	1 450	2 200	1 100	3 750	7.5
100 000	5 350	4 800	3 900	3 250	3 400	1 750	3 050	1 450	5 050	5.1
150 000	6 300	5 650	4 600	3 800	4 000	1 950	3 700	1 650	6 050	4.0
200 000	7 050	6 300	5 150	4 250	4 450	2 050	4 250	1 850	6 800	3.4
300 000	8 200	7 350	6 000	4 900	5 200	2 250	..	2 100	8 050	2.7
500 000	9 950	8 850	7 250	5 850	6 250	2 500	..	..	9 900	2.0
1 000 000	12 750	11 350	9 250	7 400	7 950	..	..	..	13 000	1.3
2 000 000	16 200	14 300	11 750	9 200	10 050	..	..	..	16 800	0.8
5 000 000	21 850	19 150	15 900	..	..	..	..	..	23 150	0.5
10 000 000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29 150	0.3

## DATA ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM THIS SURVEY

The ABS offers a range of unpublished data from this survey upon request.

This section specifies the data items, categories and populations which relate to the survey. More detailed breakdowns of some data items are available on request.

The population(s) for a particular data item refers to the persons in the survey to whom the data item relates.

Refer to the glossary in this publication and in *Labour Force, Australia* (6203.0) for definitions of data items.

### POPULATIONS

**POPULATION 1:** Unemployed persons (excluding those who were stood down).

**POPULATION 2:** Unemployed persons who were employees in their last full-time job and who ceased that job in the last two years (excluding those who were stood down).

DATA ITEM	POPULATION	DATA ITEM	POPULATION
<b>1 STATE OF USUAL RESIDENCE</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>6A RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (1)</b>	<b>ALL</b>
New South Wales		Family member	
Victoria		Husband or wife	
Queensland		With dependants	
South Australia		Without dependants	
Western Australia		Lone parent	
Tasmania		With dependants	
Northern Territory		Without dependants	
Australian Capital Territory		Dependent student	
		Non-dependent child	
		Other family person	
		Non-family member	
		Lone person	
		Not living alone	
		Not determined	
<b>2 AREA OF USUAL RESIDENCE</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>6B RELATIONSHIP IN HOUSEHOLD (2)</b>	<b>ALL</b>
Capital City		Family member	
Balance of State/Territory		Husband or wife	
		With children under 15	
		Without children under 15	
		Lone parent	
		With children under 15	
		With dependent students but without children under 15	
		Without dependants	
		Dependent student	
		Non-dependent child	
		Other family person	
		Non-family member	
		Lone person	
		Not living alone	
		Not determined	
<b>3 REGION OF USUAL RESIDENCE</b>	<b>ALL</b>		
Standard labour force dissemination regions			
<b>4 SEX</b>	<b>ALL</b>		
Males			
Females			
<b>5 MARITAL STATUS</b>	<b>ALL</b>		
Married			
Not-married			



DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
<b>13A WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTRASTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB</b>	ALL	<b>16 MAIN DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORK</b>	ALL
Would move intrastate		Considered too young or too old by employers	
Would not move intrastate		Insufficient work experience	
Moving intrastate would depend on —		Too many applicants for available jobs	
Job conditions		Lacked necessary skills/education	
Other conditions		No vacancies at all	
Undecided		No vacancies in line of work	
<b>13B WHETHER WOULD MOVE INTRASTATE IF OFFERED A SUITABLE JOB</b>	ALL	Too far to travel/transport problems	
Has applied for job intrastate		Own ill health or disability	
Would move intrastate		Language difficulties	
Moving interstate would depend on —		Unsuitable hours	
Job conditions		Difficulties with child care	
Other conditions		Other family responsibilities	
Has not applied for job intrastate		Difficulties because of ethnic background	
Would move intrastate		Other difficulties	
Moving intrastate would depend on —		No difficulties at all	
Job conditions			
Other conditions			
Would not move intrastate			
Undecided			
<b>14 NUMBER OF OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS</b>	ALL	<b>17 NUMBER OF SPELLS OF LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS</b>	ALL
None		One	
One or more		Two	
One		Three or more	
Two			
Three or more			
<b>15 ALL DIFFICULTIES IN FINDING WORK</b>	ALL	<b>18 TIME SPENT LOOKING FOR WORK IN THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS (Weeks)</b>	ALL
Too many applicants for available jobs		1 and under 2	
No vacancies in line of work		2 and under 4	
Considered too young or too old by employers		4 and under 8	
Insufficient work experience		8 and under 13	
Lacked necessary skills/education		13 and under 26	
No vacancies at all		26 and under 39	
Too far to travel/transport problems		39 and under 52	
Own ill health or disability		52 weeks	
Unsuitable hours			
Language difficulties			
Other family responsibilities			
Difficulties with child care			
Difficulties with ethnic background			
Other difficulties			
No difficulties reported			
		<b>19A EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (1)</b>	ALL
		With post-school qualifications	
		Higher degree	
		Post-graduate diploma	
		Bachelor degree	
		Undergraduate diploma	
		Associate diploma	
		Skilled vocational qualification	
		Basic vocational qualification	
		Without post-school qualifications	
		Completed highest level of secondary school	
		Did not complete highest level of secondary school	
		Left aged 13 years or less	
		Left aged 14 years	
		Left aged 15 years	
		Left aged 16 years	
		Left aged 17 years	
		Left aged 18 years and over	
		Never attended school	
		Still at school	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
<b>19B EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND WHETHER QUALIFICATION OBTAINED OVERSEAS OR IN AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>ALL</b>	<b>22B INDUSTRY OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>
Born in Australia		Agriculture, forestry and fishing	
Born outside Australia		Mining	
With post-school qualifications		Manufacturing	
Educational qualifications obtained overseas		Electricity, gas and water supply	
Educational qualifications obtained in Australia		Construction	
Without post-school qualifications		Wholesale trade	
Still at school		Retail trade	
<b>20 MAIN FIELD OF STUDY</b>	<b>ALL</b>	Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	
With post-school qualifications		Transport and storage	
Business and administration		Communication services	
Health		Finance and insurance	
Education		Property and business services	
Society and culture		Government administration and defence	
Natural and physical sciences		Education	
Engineering		Health and community services	
Architecture and building		Cultural and recreation services	
Agriculture and related fields		Personal and other services	
Miscellaneous fields			
Other			
Without post-school qualifications			
Still at school			
<b>21 WHETHER HAD WORKED FULL TIME</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23A OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (1)</b>	<b>1</b>
Had never worked full time		Last full-time job less than 2 years ago	
Had worked full time		Managers and administrators	
<b>22A INDUSTRY OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (1)</b>	<b>1</b>	Professionals	
Last full-time job less than 2 years ago		Para-professionals	
Agriculture, forestry and fishing		Tradespersons	
Mining		Clerks	
Manufacturing		Salespersons and personal service workers	
Electricity, gas and water supply		Plant and machine operators, and drivers	
Construction		Labourers and related workers	
Wholesale trade		Has not worked full time in the last 2 years	
Retail trade		Has never worked	
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants			
Transport and storage			
Communication services			
Finance and insurance			
Property and business services			
Government administration and defence			
Education			
Health and community services			
Cultural and recreation services			
Personal and other services			
Has not worked full time in the last 2 years			
Has never worked			
<b>22B INDUSTRY OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23B OCCUPATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>
Managers and administrators		Managers and administrators	
Professionals		Professionals	
Para-professionals		Para-professionals	
Tradespersons		Tradespersons	
Clerks		Clerks	
Salespersons and personal service workers		Salespersons and personal service workers	
Plant and machine operators, and drivers		Plant and machine operators, and drivers	
Labourers and related workers		Labourers and related workers	

DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS	DATA ITEM	POPULATIONS
<b>24 USUAL GROSS WEEKLY PAY IN LAST FULL-TIME JOB (\$)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>26A REASON FOR CEASING LAST FULL-TIME JOB (1)</b>	<b>1</b>
Under 80		Last full-time job less than 2 years ago (a)	
80 and under 160		Job loser	
160 and under 240		Retrenched	
240 and under 320		Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	
320 and under 400		Own ill health or disability	
400 and under 480		Job leaver	
480 and under 560		Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
560 and under 640		Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	
640 and under 720		Other	
720 and under 800		Has not worked full time in the last 2 years	
800 and under 880		Has never worked	
880 and under 960			
960 and under 1040			
1040 and under 1120			
1120 and under 1200			
1200 and under 1280			
1280 and under 1360			
1360 and over			
Don't know, not stated			
Non-Australian currency			
Payment in kind			
<b>25A DURATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (1)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>26B REASON FOR CEASING LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>
Last full-time job less than 2 years ago (a)		Job loser	
Less than 1 year		Retrenched	
2 and under 4 weeks		Job was temporary or seasonal and did not leave to return to studies	
4 and under 8 weeks		Own ill health or disability	
8 and under 26 weeks		Job leaver	
26 and under 52 weeks		Unsatisfactory work arrangements	
1 and under 2 years		Job was temporary or seasonal and left to return to studies	
2 and under 5 years		Other	
5 years and over			
Has not worked full time in the last 2 years			
Has never worked			
(a) Includes unpaid voluntary workers.			
<b>25B DURATION OF LAST FULL-TIME JOB (2)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>27 STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT IN LAST FULL-TIME JOB</b>	<b>1</b>
Less than 1 year		Last full-time job less than 2 years ago	
2 and under 4 weeks		Employee	
4 and under 8 weeks		Employer	
8 and under 26 weeks		Own account worker	
26 and under 52 weeks		Contributing family worker	
1 and under 2 years		Unpaid voluntary worker	
2 and under 5 years		Other	
5 years and over		Has not worked full time in the last 2 years	
		Has never worked	

## HOW TO ORDER SPECIAL TABLES FROM THIS SURVEY

WHAT INFORMATION  
IS AVAILABLE?

See the list of data items and survey populations on pages 33-37. Data items from this list may be cross-classified to produce tables to your specifications.

COST

The cost of special data tables is available on request, but will depend on the number of data items, and their degree of detail.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Payment can be made by credit card or on receiving our invoice (the invoiced cost is payable in full within 28 days of supply).

AVAILABLE ON PAPER  
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Special data tables can be made available as printed tables or on floppy disk in a variety of formats to suit specific software packages.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

*Contact:* Robert Bibo  
Telephone: (06) 252 6661  
Facsimile: (06) 252 7784

*or write to:*

Assistant Director  
Labour Force Supplementary Surveys  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
PO Box 10  
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

## SUPPLEMENTARY AND SPECIAL SURVEYS

The supplementary and special surveys collect data on particular aspects of the labour force. The following is an historical list of supplementary and special labour force surveys. The data are available in publication form, by subscription or on request. It may be possible to order unpublished data on the following supplementary and special surveys by contacting the ABS.

<i>Title of survey</i>	<i>Product no.</i>
Alternative Working Arrangements. Irregular. Latest issue September to November 1986	6341.0
Annual and Long Service Leave Taken. Irregular. Latest issue May 1988 to April 1989	6317.0
Career Experience. Irregular. First and latest issue February 1993	6254.0
Career Paths of Persons with Trade Qualifications. Irregular. Latest issue 1993	6243.0
Career Paths of Qualified Nurses. Irregular. Latest issue March to July 1989	6277.0
Child Care. Irregular. Latest issue June 1993	4402.0
Employment Benefits. Irregular. Latest issue August 1994	6334.0.40.001
Income and Housing Costs and Amenities, Persons with Earned Income. Final issue 1990	6546.0
Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons. Annual. Latest issue July 1995	6222.0.40.001
Labour Force Experience. Two-yearly. Latest issue February 1995	6206.0.40.001
Labour Force Status and Educational Attainment. Final issue February 1994	6235.0
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families. Annual. Latest issue June 1995	6224.0.40.001
Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Migrants. Irregular. Latest issue September 1993	6250.0
Labour Mobility. Two-yearly. Latest issue February 1996	6209.0
Multiple Jobholding. Irregular. Latest issue August 1994	6216.0.40.001
Participation in Education. Annual. Latest issue September 1995	6272.0
Persons Employed at Home. Irregular. Latest issue September 1995	6275.0
Persons Not in the Labour Force. Annual. Latest issue September 1995	6220.0.40.001
Persons Who Had Re-entered the Labour Force. Irregular. Latest issue July 1995	6264.0.40.001
Persons Who Have Left the Labour Force. Irregular. Latest issue September 1994	6267.0.40.001
Retirement and Retirement Intentions. Three-yearly. Latest issue November 1994	6238.0.40.001
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience. Two-yearly. Latest issue July 1994	6245.0
Superannuation. Irregular. Latest issue November 1995	6319.0
Trade Union Members. Two-yearly. Latest issue August 1994	6325.0.40.001
Training and Education Experience. Irregular. Latest issue 1993	6278.0
Transition From Education to Work. Annual. Irregular. Latest issue May 1995	6227.0.40.001
Underemployed Workers, Australia. Annual. Latest issue September 1995	6265.0.40.001
Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution). Annual. Latest issue August 1995	6310.0.40.001
Working Arrangements Irregular. Latest issue August 1995	6342.0.40.001

## SUPPLEMENTARY SURVEY PROGRAM FOR 1996

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Survey month</i>	<i>Release</i>
Job Search Experience of Unemployed Persons	July 1996	December 1996
Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience	July 1996	December 1996
Employment Benefits (Standard only)	August 1996	February 1997
Trade Union Members	August 1996	February 1997

## INQUIRIES

Central Office: (06) 252 6504

Regional Offices:

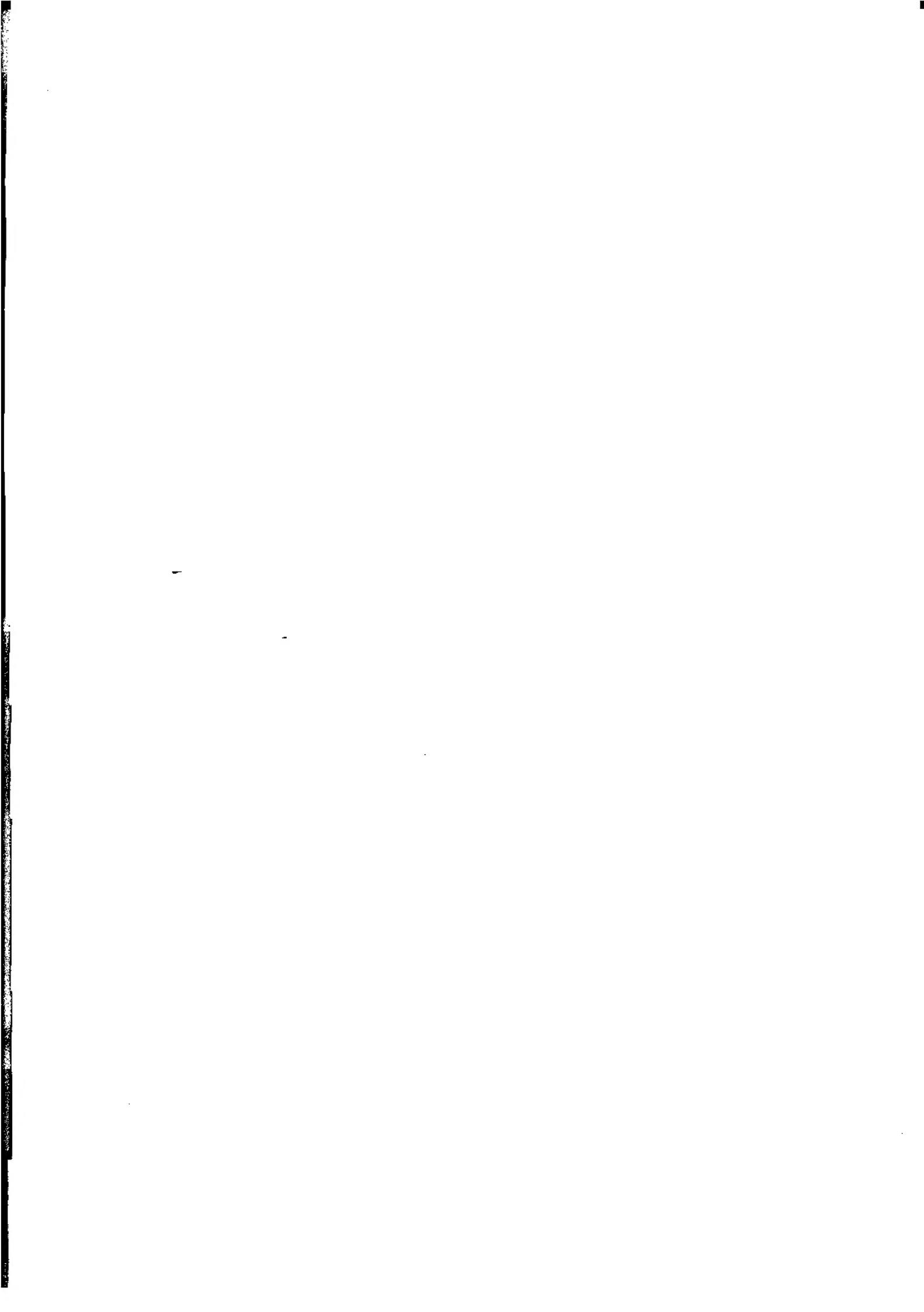
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## GLOSSARY

<b>Active steps taken to find work</b>	Steps taken during the current period of unemployment. They comprise: writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; answering a newspaper advertisement for a job; checking factory or Commonwealth Employment Service noticeboards; being registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service; checking or registering with any other employment agency; advertising or tendering for work; and contacting friends or relatives.
<b>All difficulties in finding work</b>	All difficulties experienced during the current period of unemployment.
<b>All unemployed persons</b>	Those persons who were not employed during the reference week (i.e. the week immediately preceding that in which the interview took place), had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week, and:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ were available for work in the reference week, or would have been available except for temporary illness (i.e. lasting for less than four weeks to the end of the reference week); or</li> <li>■ were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and would have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.</li> </ul>
<b>Average duration (of current period of unemployment)</b>	The duration obtained by dividing the aggregate number of weeks a group has been unemployed by the number of persons in that group.
<b>Ceased last full-time job</b>	Left or lost last full-time job.
<b>CES</b>	The Commonwealth Employment Service is a referral service for jobseekers and employers, which also attempts to redress skill shortages through labour market programs.
<b>Duration of current period of unemployment</b>	The period from the time the person began looking for work to the end of the reference week. Thus this item measures the current (and continuing) period of unemployment rather than a completed spell. For persons who may have begun looking for work while still employed, the duration of current period of unemployment is defined as the period from the time the person last worked full-time for two weeks or more to the end of the reference week.
<b>Educational attainment</b>	Measures the highest qualification completed by the respondent, classified according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics Classification of Qualifications. The seven categories for level of attainment are as follows:
Higher degree	Comprises primarily Doctorates and Master's degrees. The minimum entry requirements are usually a Master's degree or a first class honours degree for a Doctorate and completion of an honours degree for a Master's degree. The duration of study is a minimum of two to four years for a Doctorate and two years full-time or equivalent for a Master's degree. This level of qualification is designed to recognise significant contributions to original research or the application of knowledge within a given field of study.
Postgraduate diploma	Includes Graduate Certificates. The entry requirement is usually the successful completion of a Bachelor degree or an Undergraduate diploma. The duration of study ranges from six months (for a Graduate Certificate) to one year full-time study or equivalent. Courses usually build on undergraduate studies, and are designed to broaden or develop professional knowledge and skills in a related or new area of studies.

Bachelor degree	The entry requirement is the satisfactory completion of Year 12 or its equivalent. The duration of study ranges from three to six years full-time study or its equivalent. Courses are designed to provide students with a systematic and coherent introduction to a broad body of knowledge. The emphasis is on the underlying principles and concepts of that body of knowledge.
Undergraduate diploma	The entry requirement is usually the successful completion of Year 12 or its equivalent. The duration of study is three years full-time study or its equivalent. Certain other qualifications are classified to this level on the basis that their entry requirements, duration of study and theoretical orientation are regarded as being equivalent to those of undergraduate diplomas, for example, Certificate in Psychiatric Nursing. Courses are designed to provide individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary for practice in a professional or associate professional occupation.
Associate diploma	The entry requirement is usually the completion of Year 12 or the completion of Year 10 and a prerequisite certificate course. The duration of study ranges from one to two years full-time or its equivalent. Courses provide individuals with the knowledge and skill necessary to give support to professionals, and for positions in advanced trade, technical or associate professional occupations. Advanced Certificates, Technician's Certificates and Certificates of Technology are included in this level as they have broadly the same theoretical orientation as associate diplomas.
Skilled vocational qualification	The entry requirement is usually the completion of Year 10 or its equivalent. In addition, some courses may require a student to be concurrently employed in that specific field. The duration of study is two to four years, and typically involves some on-the-job training. Courses provide individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to work in specific vocation, recognised trade or craft that requires a high degree of skill in a range of related activities.
Basic vocational qualification	Often requires Year 10 completion, however many courses have no formal entry requirements. The duration of study ranges from one semester to one year full-time study or equivalent. Courses provide individuals with the practical skills and background knowledge necessary for employment at the operative level in many different fields.
<b>Highest level of secondary school available</b>	The highest level of secondary school available to the respondent, as determined by the respondent, at the time he or she left school (i.e. Year 12 or equivalent).
<b>Interstate</b>	Between States/Territories.
<b>Intrastate</b>	Within the State/Territory.
<b>Job</b>	Any paid employment, full-time or part-time, lasting two weeks or more.
<b>Job leavers</b>	Persons who have ceased their last job voluntarily, that is, because:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ of unsatisfactory work arrangements/pay/hours;</li> <li>■ the job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they left that job to return to studies;</li> <li>■ they retired, started a new business, got a better job, left for family or other reasons; or</li> <li>■ changed locality but not employer/business for employment, personal or other reasons.</li> </ul>

<b>Job losers</b>	Persons who ceased their last job involuntarily, that is:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ they were retrenched or their business closed down because of financial difficulties;</li> <li>■ their job was seasonal, temporary or a holiday job and they did not leave that job to return to studies; or</li> <li>■ they left their job because of their own ill-health or injury.</li> </ul>
<b>Looking for part-time work</b>	Actively looking for part-time work only.
<b>Main difficulty in finding work</b>	The main difficulty experienced during the current period of unemployment.
<b>Main English speaking countries</b>	Comprises the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America and New Zealand.
<b>Main field of study</b>	For those persons whose highest qualification is a degree, vocational qualification, certificate or diploma, it is the main field of study for that qualification.
<b>Median duration (of current period of unemployment)</b>	The duration which divides unemployed persons into two equal size groups, one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the median, and the other, persons whose duration is below it.
<b>Number of offers of employment</b>	The number of separate offers of employment received during the current period of unemployment.
<b>Number of spells of looking for work in the previous 12 months</b>	The number of different periods, including the current period, during which persons reported having been out of work and looking for a job.
<b>Persons with post-school qualifications</b>	Persons who have obtained a vocational qualification, certificate, diploma, degree or any other qualification, since leaving school. Respondents indicated which of the following groups best described their highest qualification: Higher degree; Postgraduate diploma; Bachelor degree; Undergraduate diploma; Associate diploma; Skilled Vocational Qualification; Basic Vocational Qualification.
<b>Persons who were stood down</b>	Persons classed as unemployed who had been stood down without pay for less than four weeks, for reasons other than bad weather or plant breakdown.
<b>Still at school</b>	Current school attendance was recorded only for persons aged 15–20 years.
<b>Time spent looking for work in the previous 12 months</b>	The total number of weeks persons reported having been out of work and looking for a job, including the weeks in the current period of unemployment.
<b>Usual gross weekly pay</b>	The amount of usual total weekly pay (i.e. before taxation and other deductions have been made).



## For more information . . .

The ABS publishes a wide range of statistics and other information on Australia's economic and social conditions. Details of what is available in various publications and other products can be found in the ABS Catalogue of Publications and Products available from all ABS Offices.

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#### National Dial-a-Statistic Line

0055 86 400

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This number gives 24-hour access, 365 days a year, for a range of important economic statistics including the CPI.

#### Internet

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